

No 61,988 FRIDAY NOVEMBER 16 1984 20p

THE TIMES Tomorrow

After the break... Bernard Levin on the BBC's hostility to advertising



Kasbah capers Michael Watkins profiles Tunisia

Slice of life Philip Norman bakes a cake in New York

Going for goal Line-up for the first round of the FA Cup

Synod votes for legislation on ordaining women

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

The Church of England took a large step yesterday towards ordaining women as priests when the General Synod carried by fair majority a resolution calling for legislation to achieve this.

Since 1975 the church has failed to move beyond a position in favour of the principle but unwilling to implement it. A similar motion calling for legislation was *defeated in 1978*.

The size of the majority was something of a surprise to all concerned, particularly as the debate had *seemed to indicate* an even balance.

The movement for the Ordination of Women said it was "delighted", but opponents took comfort from the lack of a two-thirds majority, which did not affect the outcome but which legislation will need.

The first woman is unlikely to be ordained until the 1990s, Mr Derek Pattinson, secretary general of the Synod, said. The next step is the election of a new Synod next year, when that issue, as the Archbishop of York, Dr John Habgood said in the course of the debate, would dominate the hustings.

Draft legislation could be ready for consideration by the 44 diocesan synods in 1986. The final decision, requiring a two-thirds majority, could come in 1988.

That timetable assumes that yesterday's decision is not overthrown by the next synod, which could happen. It also takes no account of the Archbishop of York's stated intention to slow down the process to increase the prospect of general acceptability, within the church, and with those churches such as the Roman Catholic church and Orthodox church, with which the Anglican Communion is engaging in *unity discussion*.

Anglo Catholics in the Synod, heavily opposed to the resolution, were not reassured by the *information that the Anglican-Roman Catholic International* Commission has the issue on its official agenda. Their *opposition stems partly from concern* over the effect on relations with Roman Catholic Church.

Probably the most significant *remark of the five-hour debate* was made by the Bishop of Southwark, the Right Rev Ronald Bowlby, summing up. He observed the none of the opposition had been based this time upon fundamental theological grounds.

It was admitted by both sides that the really difficult questions were about how fast to proceed; how to avoid damaging and *dividing the church*, and how not to damage the prospect of church unity. In this respect the debate represented a significant movement of opinion, compared with six years ago.

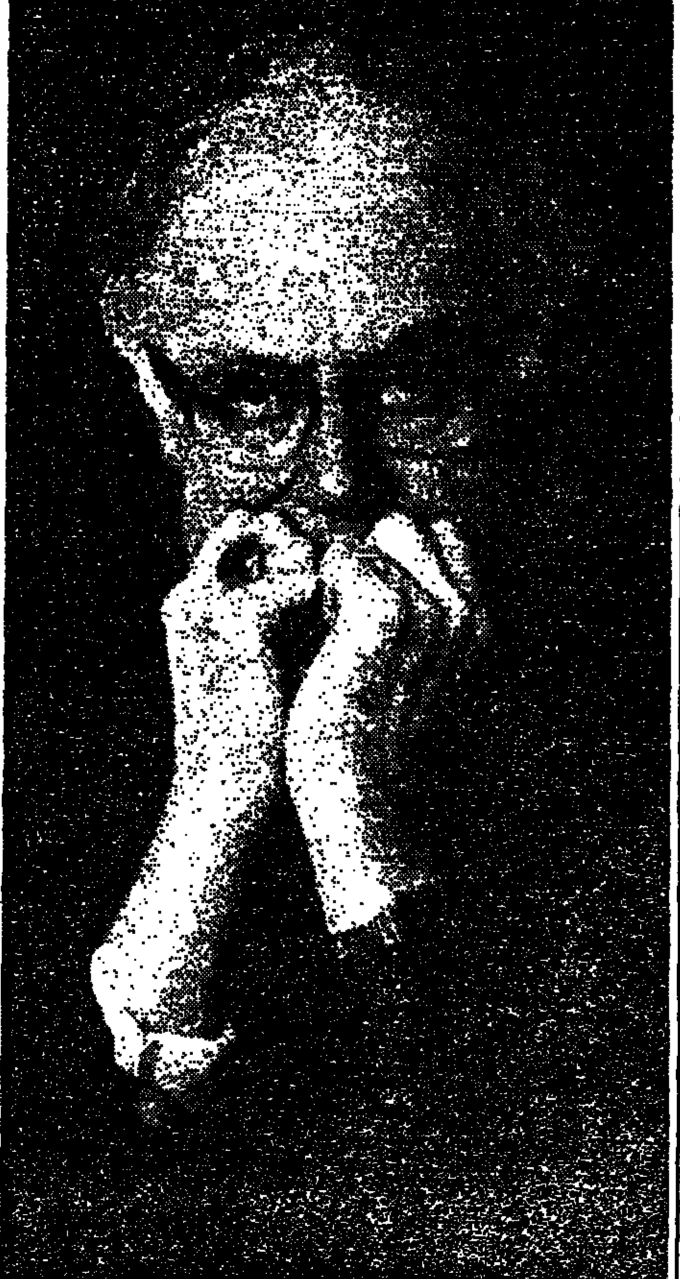
Mr Oswald Clark, chairman of the House of Laity, led the opposition, saying the Church of England could not act until it had reached a degree of consensus.

The church had still to develop a better understanding of the mutual relationship of men and women, and to find a better use for women in the *church's ministry. The church* should not pursue a "sexless concept of personality" nor should it imply that redeemed humnity was somehow opposed to masculinity, as some feminist theologian seemed to say.

He quoted Cardinal Basil Hume as warning that the ordination of women was a momentous issue in relations between the Anglican and Roman Catholic churches.

One of the more influential contributions came from the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, who had never publicly committed himself before to the principle of ordaining women. But because he was concerned about the *unity of the church he urged* further delay.

He asked what kind of ministry would women be *called upon to exercise*, saying whereas priests should be symbols of reconciliation women priests would be symbols of division. Report, page 5



Dr Runcie yesterday. He committed himself to ordaining women but urged delay

NUM ignores Labour call for pit ballot

From Paul Routledge, Labour Editor, Sheffield

Leaders of the National Union of Miners decided yesterday to ignore the clear hints from the Labour Party leadership to hold a national ballot. Instead they voted to continue the pit strike indefinitely.

The executive committee of the NUM unanimously agreed on a five-point plan to intensify the 36-week stoppage and invited the churches to give aid to the strikers in a new propaganda offensive against the Government.

Mr Arthur Scargill, the president of the NUM, said: "I am not going to include myself in any slanging match between sections of the trade union and labour movement. What I want to do is unify the movement."

However, the NUM's declaration of its bargaining position yesterday is unlikely to heal the growing rift between left-wing supporters of the miners and moderates on the TUC general council who are arguing that the conduct of the coal dispute should be taken out of the hands of Mr Scargill and his allies.

At yesterday's meeting of the NUM executive it was decided to reaffirm all previous decisions on the conduct of the strike and reiterate that the NUM were available to "negotiate a settlement of this damaging and costly dispute in line with *Plan for Coal*." That form of words is the customary code for the union's insistence on withdrawal of the pit closure programme put forward by the coal board on March 6.

But the board is not willing to resume negotiations on that basis, and a long stalemate in the peace process in now expected despite behind the scenes *efforts* by Mr Stanley Orme, Labour's energy spokesman.

The NCB has said that negotiations are "at an end" and that any reopening of talks must start from an acceptance by the union of the board's overall position.

Another 708 miners returned to work yesterday, bringing the number of men returning to work this week to 4,600 and during the past 10 days to nearly 7,000.

The archbishops of Canterbury and York, last night offered to act as mediators in the pits dispute. Dr Robert Runcie and Dr John Habgood said in a joint statement to the Church of England's General Synod: "Should there be a serious request to the bishops from the NUM to act in a mediating or reconciling role, we would respond positively in consultation with other church leaders."

One compromise proposal suggested yesterday during the executive meeting was swiftly dismissed. Mr Sid Vincent, secretary of the Lancashire miners, a moderate who is nonetheless strongly identified with the strike, proposed that the NUM should go back into talks with the coal board on the basis *of a five-year moratorium* on pit closures.

Mr Vincent's idea drew only a handful of supporters, and was not pressed to a vote.

The idea of a pithead ballot, which Labour leaders wanted to see on the agenda, was mentioned only in passing and was not seriously raised by moderates who want to see such a poll.

Continued on back page, col 8

Portfolio

The Times Portfolio competition was won yesterday by Mr David Crothers who lives in Walsall; as there was no winner on Wednesday he receives £4,000. Portfolio list, page 26. How to play, Information Service, back page.

Bill aims to stop glue sniffing

A Bill aimed at *ending glue* sniffing is to be introduced in the Commons by Mr Neville Trotter, the Conservative MP who came top of the ballot for private members' Bills. He will seek Home Office advice on drafting his Bill, which will almost certainly have government support

Ballot result, page 5

Withdrawal call

The United Nations General Assembly called for the fifth year in succession for the withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan, where Soviet troops invaded in December, 1979

Damages paid

Selfridges, the London department store, paid £1,500 damages to Mrs Maureen Steinberg, a racehorse owner, and apologized for wrongly accusing her of shoplifting Page 3



OAU appeal

The Organization of African Unity summit ended with a call for massive international aid for Africa and pledged to hold a meeting next year to consider what Africa can do for itself

Emergency spreads, page 6

Parole policy

The House of Lords declared that the Home Secretary's new, tougher parole policy for certain murderers and other *criminals* was legal Page 2

Leader page, 17

Letters: On food aid, from Mr M. Bax, and others; Japanese, from Professor Y. Furuki; squatters, from the Rev R.G.N. Plant

Leading articles: EEC enlargement; parole

Features, pages 10, 12, 15

David Steel urges fresh thinking on the Falklands; Labour's illusions; why foreign spending cuts have gone far enough. Spectrum: the countryside's comic crusader. Friday Page: backlash to the frau line

Penmanship, pages 27-29 A special report on the joys of writing well

Classified, pages 22, 32-34

Business to business, motoring

Obituary, page 18

Dr Robert MacKenna, the Rev T. Bellhouse

Home News	2,3,5	Motoring	33
Overseas	6,8,9	Obituary	18
Appts	23	Parliament	4
Arts	15	Sale Room	2
Business	19-26	Science	18
Court	18	Sport	30-32
Crossword	36	TV & Radio	35
Diary	16	Theatres, etc	35
Events	36	Weather	36
Law Report	25	Wills	18

Papandreou mediates in Chad deal

From Mario Modiano *Athens*

Colonel Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, yesterday promised President Mitterrand of France *that he would pull his remaining* troops out of Chad in exchange for a French guarantee of Libya's right to defend its borders if a third country intervened in Chad.

The deal was arranged at Elounda, a holiday resort on the Greek island of Crete, where the two leaders met yesterday after mediation by Mr Andreas Papandreou, the Socialist Prime Minister of Greece.

The unannounced meeting had been carefully prepared by Mr Papandreou, who had also been instrumental in arranging the Franco-Libyan agreement for the evacuation of their troops from Chad last weekend.

M Mitterrand had agreed to the Greek suggestion of a meeting with Colonel Gaddafi because he believed that the evacuation agreement had been carried out.

But later the French president's certainty appeared to waver as French intelligence reports confirmed US satellite observations that there were still Libyan Troops in the north of Chad.

After discussions lasting almost five hours in the heavily guarded Cretan seaside hotel, Mr Papandreou told reporters he was speaking on behalf of President Mitterrand, who had left for Paris immediately after *the talks*.

"They agreed that not one French or Libyan soldier should remain in Chad.... *They also agreed that if there is* intervention by a third country, whatever country it may be, Libya will not only have the right to defend itself in the region, but also the right, guaranteed by France, to defend its own borders. France will not support any third country's intervention in Chad."

● PARIS: French Opposition MPs yesterday accused President Mitterrand of granting Colonel Gaddafi "a kind of certificate of respectability which other great Western nations have refused to give him", by agreeing to meet the Libyan leader, particularly at a time when he appeared to have broken the *Chad withdrawal* agreement (Diana Geddes writes).

British Telecom office runs out of share documents

By Jonathan Davis, Business Correspondent

The Government will *announce today the terms* on which British Telecom shares are being sold amid mounting evidence that next week's *privatization issue is going* to be a popular sellout. At least two million people are now expected to put in for shares, well above original expectations.

The surge of interest claimed its first administrative casualty yesterday when the official BT share information office in Bristol started telling callers that it had run out of prospectuses. The office has had 1.3 million requests for application forms, more than three-and-a-half times the number it had originally budgeted for.

Embarrassed officials admitted that they had stopped sending out the prospectuses, and were advising potential investors to go to banks and building societies instead to find copies. The prospectus will also be published in national newspapers, including *The Times*, on Tuesday.

Although the details of the pricing of the shares will not be announced until this morning, the final elements of the deal were sewn up in the City yesterday with a group of leading banks reaching agreement on the underwriting of the issue.

Just over 3,000 million shares - 50.2 per cent of British Telecom's share capital - are being sold in what is by far the largest share offer ever undertaken. The indications last night were that the price investors will be asked to pay is 130p a share. This would value BT as a whole at just under £8 billion, and means the Treasury stands to raise over £3.9 billion from the sale, the biggest so far in the Government's continuing privatization programme.

Payment for the shares will be spread over a 17-month period, with an initial down payment (thought to be 50p) followed by two further instalments in June next year and in April 1986. A price of 130p would be towards the top end of original market estimates, but merely reflects the strong demand for the shares which has built up in the City in the last few weeks as the flotation approached.

The Government has made great play of its desire to spread the ownership of British Telecom as widely as possible, but the scale of the public response now looks to have exceeded the best hopes of ministers and officials.

Favourable press comments and the inducements offered by the Government to first-time share buyers - including the offer of free telephone bill vouchers - appear to have been mainly responsible for the rush of interest.

Prospectuses will be published next Tuesday and investors then have until November 28 to put in their applications. *Lloyds Bank* is taking on 250 extra staff

The calls for information to the official information office in Bristol are believed to have earned more than £100,000 in extra revenue for British Telecom. Plans to make the *service available free of charge* were considered but turned down by the Government.

BT's image, page 21

Du Cann is deposed as 1922 chief

By Richard Evans

Mr Edward du Cann was last night ousted from the chairmanship of the 1922 Committee of Conservative backbenchers, a post he had held for 12 years.

He was finally defeated by 117 to 94 votes in a straight fight with Mr Cranley Onslow, after three ballots involving five MPs.

Mr du Cann's defeat, had not been expected by any of his challengers, and he appeared visibly shaken and surprised when he emerged after the vote. He said: "I was the first to congratulate Mr Onslow as you would expect. I said how much I appreciated the kindness and courtesy of the Committee over the many long years."

Mr Onslow, aged 58, the MP for Woking, was a minister at the Foreign Office until he resigned after the dismissal of Mr Francis Pym in 1983. His desire for the new job was reflected in a secret memorandum he sent to Conservative colleagues last month implicitly urging them to drop Mr du Cann.

Kinnock's 'lack of guts' attacked by Thatcher

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister exploited Labour's vulnerability on the coal strike yesterday, accusing Mr Neil Kinnock of humbug on the question of a ballot, and of lacking guts on the issue of picketing violence.

There were strong signa of Westminster last night that Labour, already dragging 9 per cent behind in the latest opinion poll, was beginning to crack under the strain of the dispute.

On the one side, Mr Roy Hattersley's Shadow Cabinet allies showed their delight that the deputy leader had urged greater consultation of the miners by their leadership.

It was said, with authority, that Mr Hattersley wanted some formal consultative exercise so that the miners could have their say in the running - or ending - of the dispute.

More than, that it was said to be of vital political importance that the public should be able to observe the exercise and know that if the strike continued then it continued because more than 100,000 miners believed in the necessity for prolonged industrial action.

Mr Kinnock remained silent. Having endorsed Mr Hattersley's initiative, the leader's friends said that it was not for him to say anything. The miners were grown men and if they wanted to voice an opinion they could do it through their NUM lodges.

Margaret Thatcher's broadside against the beleaguered Labour leader came after he had accused her of humbug for saying she wanted a quick end to the strike.

The Prime Minister said that she could not teach Mr Kinnock anything about humbug. "He said things about a ballot at the beginning of the strike and then

Continued on back page, col 8

Thatcher may visit Reagan

By Julian Haviland Political Editor

The Prime Minister is hoping to meet President Reagan before Christmas, probably in Washington

There has been preliminary discussion between Downing Street and the White House on whether it would be appropriate for Mrs Margaret Thatcher to pay her respects to Mr Reagan after his reelection. It would be a brief visit on her way home from Peking and Hongkong, in the course of what would then be a round-the world journey.

Arrangements are now almost complete for the first leg of the journey to Peking, where the Prime Minister is to sign the agreement on the future of Hongkong. The Chinese have made it clear, and the British Government has accepted, that the importance of the occasion requires Mrs Thatcher's presence, *although Sir Geoffrey* Howe, the Foreign Secretary, will go with her.

Movement in Washington and Moscow

Prospects rise for arms talks

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

President Reagan is taking steps to bring about an early resumption of nuclear arms control talks with the Soviet Union, as he pledged during his re-election campaign.

American officials believe Soviet leaders also want to start talking again and hope a new round of negotiations could commence as early as next spring. However, both sides are jockeying for position to determine the scope, nature and venue of such talks.

The US has proposed that initially the talks be revived under a broader forum - or "umbrella" - than existed previously. This concept would enable *Mr George Shultz, the* Secretary of State, and his Soviet counterpart, Mr Andrei Gromyko, to have a broad *exchange on key arms control* issues leading to negotiations by experts on specific items.

It would allow for *discussions of the critical relationship* between offensive and defensive systems and provide more flexibility for reviving negotiations proper.

The Americans would like the "umbrella" concept to cover strategic and intermediate-range nuclear missiles, space weapons, the banning of chemical warfare, confidence-building measures and reduction of conventional forces in Europe.

Moscow has boycotted the intermediate-range and strategic missile talks in Geneva since the end of last year and the Reagan Administration hopes the "umbrella" formula will lead to their resumption.

The Kremlin, however, is concentrating on getting Washington to negotiate on preventing the militarization of space, fearing that American testing of anti-satellite weapons would give the US a big lead.

The Reagan Administration is willing to go into these talks without preconditions. But it wants to bring up nuclear missiles and is refusing to accept the Soviet precondition of a moratorium on anti-satellite tests. The US carried out such a test this week.

President Reagan signalled his desire for an early resumption of negotiations in a letter to Moscow in reply to the congratulatory message from President Chernenko on his re-election.

Mr Reagan said that despite Soviet-American differences in perspectives on international problems, I am confident we can make progress on strengthening peace and resolving our differences through discussions and negotiations".

Mr Gromko expressed interest in the "umbrella" idea during White House talks at the end of September. Since then there have been further discussions at ambassadorial level in Washington and Moscow.

However, before any talks *can get under* way the Reagan Administration must resolve its own internal divisions.

Artist to be among Prince's godparents

By Alan Hamilton

Prince Henry of Wales, younger child of the Prince and Princess of Wales, is to be christened in St George's Chapel, Windsor, on December 21. The service will be conducted by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie.

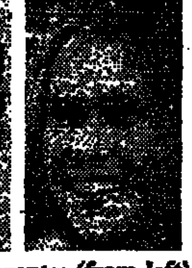
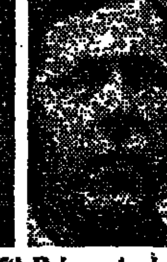
Henry Charles Albert David, who is third in line of succession to the throne, will have six godparents, with Prince Andrew and Lady Sarah Armstrong-Jones representing his immediate family.

The others will be Mrs William Bartholomew, who as Miss Carolyn Pride was a flatmate of the Princess before her marriage; Lady Cece Vestey, a personal friend of the Prince and Princess; Mr Bryan Organ, the artist for whom the Prince and Princess have sat; and Mr Gerald Ward, and his former wife Rosalind was a friend of Prince Charles in his batchelor days.

The list is bound to cause some surprise. There had been speculation that Princess Anne and Dr Armand Hammer, the American oil millionaire who is a close friend of Prince Charles, might be included.

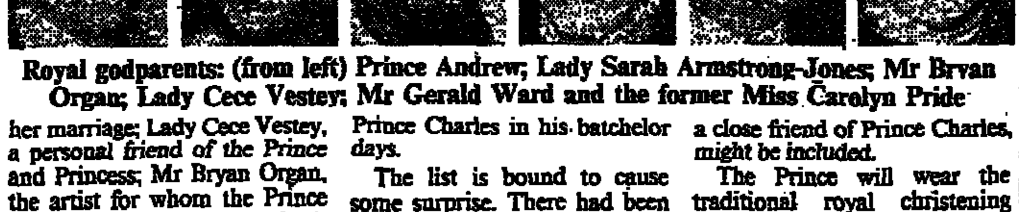
The Prince will wear the traditional royal christening robe of Honiton lace which was first used in 1841 by Queen Victoria's first child.





Royal godparents: (from left) Prince Andrew; Lady Sarah Armstrong-Jones; Mr Bryan Organ; Lady Cece Vestey; Mr Gerald Ward and the former Miss Carolyn Pride



Runcie thinks Mason priests confuse people

Clergymen who are also Freemasons confuse the public, the Archbishop of Canterbury Dr Robert Runcie, said yesterday. (Rupert Morris writes).

In a letter to a St Albans councillor, Mr Malcolm MacMillan, who had expressed outrage at the disclosure by the Dean of St Albans, the Very Rev Peter Moore, that he was a freemason, Dr Runcie wrote: "Quite frankly I myself think it is confusing for people if clergymen get involved with Freemasonry".

But Dr Runcie welcomed the *Dean's decision to write* openly about being a Freemason.

Lords approve Brittan's tougher parole restrictions

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Home Secretary's tough er parole policy for prisoners guilty of certain kinds of murder, other violent crimes, and drug trafficking was held to be legal by the House of Lords yesterday.

In a unanimous judgment which effects several hundred prisoners, the Law Lords ruled that Mr Leon Brittan did not act illegally in introducing the policy last autumn.

But the policy, which creates a 20-year minimum jail term for murderers of police and prison officers and of children, and for terrorists as well as those who kill during armed robbery, is now expected to be challenged before the European Commission of Human Rights.

The Law Lords dismissed an appeal brought by four prisoners all affected by the changes, which also mean the withdrawal of parole for all prisoners serving five or more years for violent crime or drug trafficking, except in "exceptional circumstances".

Two of them were already in open prisons in preparation for release when the Home Secretary announced his policy in the Conservative Party conference in October, last year, and were immediately sent back to closed prisons.

He said that their release in the relatively near future "would not have accorded with my view of the gravity of their offences".

Giving judgment yesterday, *Lord Scarman said that until the policy was announced each of the two prisoners expected that he might be granted parole in the not-too-distant future.*

"The shattering impact of the policy statement upon the four appellants can surprise no one. Their excellent prison records were greatly to their credit and the prior practices in the administration of parole understandably nourished their hopes of release."

The Home Secretary was aware of the impact of the new policy, Lord Scarman added. But he had made clear that in cases of violent crime the paramount consideration would be the safety of the public, not the interests of the individual criminal.

The Home Secretary had not been obliged, as lawyers for the prisoners argued, to consult the Parole Board before adopting the policy; did not act unlawfully in introducing a policy based on a category of offence; and was not in breach of the law by thwarting the prisoners' expectations of release.

Miss Kate Akester, solicitor for the prisoners, said she was greatly disappointed with the ruling. "The whole prison population has been watching this case: these four have been spokesmen for the whole system and many hopes will have been dashed."

But she added that they would take the case before the European Commission of Human Rights. "The moral issue still remains: that this *policy was a retrospective penal* sanction which is against the European Convention on Human Rights."

The judgment was also criticized by the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders (Nacro). "The policy may have been upheld legally, but that does not detract from the fact that such a fundamental change in the way the parole system operates should have been put before Parliament in the form of legislation", Mr Paul Cavadino, research officer, said.

He said the policy was both constitutionally and morally objectionable. "It means that the Home Secretary is imposing his views on those of the judiciary who imposed their sentences on the merits of individual cases. Instead, the Home Secretary is fixing a new sentence for a whole category."

Second, it imposed gratuitous suffering on the individual prisoners, who in one case would now be in prison until *the end of the decade, when he* had reasonably expected release by next year. "This will do absolutely nothing to reduce violent crime."

The prisoners involved are:

Edward Findlay, serving seven years for armed robbery imposed in 1981. He had expected release on licence last March, with his first review under the old parole rules last November.

Roy Matthews, serving nine years for drug trafficking imposed in 1982, would have become eligible for parole next April. He and Findlay had excellent prison records and expected to be granted parole this year or next.

The other two were serving life sentences. Peter Hogben was sentenced in 1969 for murder committed with a firearm during armed robbery. Roy Honeyman was sentenced in July last year for stabbing during a burglary. Both, described as "exemplary prisoners" had been moved to open prisons.

Leading article, page 17
Law Report, page 25

Big change proposed in teachers' conditions

By Lucy Hodges, Educational Correspondent

Big reforms in teachers' pay and conditions were proposed yesterday that would mean all new teachers would have to serve a probationary period before progressing to a main grade if they were assessed as suitable.

The package, proposed by the teachers' employers', the local education authorities, outlines for the first time a contract for teachers that would include a requirement that they substitute for absent colleagues and do a limited amount of lunchtime supervision.

Teachers' unions jealously guard the right not to have to perform these duties and Mr Doug McAvoy, deputy general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, the biggest teachers' union, said yesterday that on these points the document "is immediately and obviously unsatisfactory and unacceptable".

The proposals, which have been sent for approval to Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, propose that the main professional grade for qualified teachers *should carry a salary* scale of £8,500 to £11,800. Most classroom teachers at present earn £8,500. The present scale is from £5,442 to £13,395.

Under the new proposals, teachers would be able to progress up the main grade so long as their headteacher certifies that their work was satisfactory. At the same time promotion could be stopped by the head.

Exceptionally good teachers would be awarded teacher fellowships to last three years. During that period they would be given £1,000 each year and allowed to take a term's sabbatical leave. Teacher fellows would have to help with in-service training.

Merit pay as such has been dropped as has the notion of "accelerated incremental progression" which envisaged high fliers being placed on a fast track.

The proposals suggest that teacher hours be limited to 1,300 a year, spread over 195 *days, and that teachers would* not have to spend more than 25 hours a week in the classroom.

All secondary school teachers would be entitled to two free periods a week, and all teachers would have to do up to two days' lunchtime supervision, outside the dining room, for not more than half of the lunch break.



Coal board and NUM clash over figures

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

The momentum of the return to work by striking miners continued yesterday, according to the National Coal Board. However, miners' leaders continued to dispute the number of men breaking the strike.

Mr Michael Eaton, the coal board's spokesman, said: "If it is true, as one executive member said, that the return to work was not even discussed at the NUM executive meeting, I find that astonishing."

The board reported that 708 "new faces" reported for work for the first time on the morning and afternoon shifts yesterday, bringing the total number returning to work this week to more than 4,600 compared with last week's record figures of almost 2,200.

Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the NUM, speaking after the union's executive meeting in Sheffield, said that the coal board's figures did not make sense and that if the numbers that the board claim have returned to work were added together they would come to more than the total number of men employed by the board.

The board said last night that more than 58,000 NUM men were now not on strike out of a total of 176,000. Of the country's 174 pits, some men had reported for work at 132 pits, but only 58 were cutting coal, two more than last week.

Mr Eaton said: "It is ridiculous for union leaders to try to dismiss this as propaganda. The NCB are not in the business of falsifying figures. It is a fact that there are now more than 58,000 NUM members who are not on strike and I have no doubt at all these figures will go on increasing."

Despite fewer men returning to work since Monday's surge of 1,900 men, coal board officials are confident that the trend has been established with well over 500 new men reporting for duty each day.

Monday is the deadline for returning miners to qualify for extra entitlements before Christmas: in the case of a top paid face worker more than £1,100 including wages, holiday pay and a bonus.

However, Mr Sid Vincent, the moderate secretary of the Lancashire miners, said the figures were crooked. "It is as simple as that. In June this year the board issued a statement that 60,000 miners were working. This week they say 56,000 miners are working, so the *board's figures are con figures;* once a liar always a liar."

He denied that the number of miners returning this week represented a crack in the solidarity of the union and added that there are still 150,000 NUM members on strike.

Returning miners on November 15 (source NCB): Scotland 70, North East 170, North Yorkshire 30, South Yorkshire 110, Doncaster and Barnsley 35, Western 85, South Wales 3, North Derbyshire 160, South Midlands (inc Kent) 10, North Notts and South Notts 20, Coal product plants 15. Total 708 (Note early afternoon returns.)

Strike pay query to NUM wives

Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, yesterday invited Mrs Anne Scargill and Mrs Betty Heathfield to ask their husbands why they had decided it better to spend union funds on mob picketing rather than on strike pay.

In a letter to them he also said that Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the National Union of Mineworkers, and Mr Peter Heathfield, the union's general secretary, had organized a strike for which there was no industrial justification and that their actions were damaging mining communities.

Mr Walker was replying to a letter he had received from them as representatives of Women Against Pit Closures just over a month ago.

He said: "If their real concern was to improve working conditions and the environment they would, of course, have rejoiced at the fact that not only was every miner guaranteed a job, but the National Coal Board have made clear their willingness to invest vast sums."

● Trade unionists from northern Italy said yesterday they had collected about $8,000 (£6,350) in two days to support Britain's striking miners.

● Four striking miners and a fireman, all from Shirebrook, Derbyshire, were jailed by magistrates at Chesterfield yesterday for offences connected with the pits dispute.

Richard Baker, aged 18, of Alderney, was sentenced to 56 days detention for damaging property and besetting the home of a working miner. Barry Kay, aged 17, of Central Drive, was given 28 days at a detention centre; Dale Wagstaffe, aged 17, a fireman of Yew Tree Drive, was given 28 days detention; Mark Hill, aged 18, of Springfield Avenue, received 28 days detention and Glyn Kissane, aged 21, of Prospect Drive, was sentenced to 65 days imprisonment, all for besetting the home of a working miner.

Striking pitmen seek ruling against police

Four striking Yorkshire miners asked two judges yesterday in the Court of Appeal in London to rule that police officers who stopped them at a roadblock had acted outside their powers in preventing them joining picket lines outside Nottinghamshire collieries.

Mr Michael Mansfield, for the four men, told Mr Justice Skinner, sitting with Mr Justice Otton, that although the police had the powers to stop the men and warn them that if they went ahead and caused a breach of the peace, they would be arrested, they did not have the power to anticipate trouble and prevent them free passage.

"There was no evidence that any of these four men were intending to commit criminal acts of any kind", Mr Mansfield said.

The four men, Mr Reginald Moss, Mr Albert Bowns, Mr Ernest Warner, and Mr Derek Smith, were stopped by police as they left the M1 motorway at Annesley in April this year. Police officers told them they had reason to think that if they were allowed to enter Nottinghamshire they would commit a breach of the peace and asked them to turn around.

When they refused, and *attempted to push their way* through a police cordon, they were arrested and convicted the next month by magistrates at Mansfield of obstructing a police officer.

But Mr Mansfield said that unless the police had grounds to arrest in relation to a breach of the peace at the time, they were not entitled to take any other measure except to warn the men of the consequences of breaching the peace if they were allowed through to the colliery.

"The power they were seeking to execute was not one of arrest but one of preventing freedom of movement", said Mr Mansfield.

The police were "no one's lackeys," Mr John Milmo, QC, counsel for the Chief Constable of Nottinghamshire, said. He added that if the police officers who formed the M1 cordon had stood aside and ushered the miners' cars through, knowing that a breach of the peace was imminent collieries near by, they would have been guilty of dereliction of duty.

The Lord Chief Justice, Lord Lane, stood down from the panel of judges hearing the case after objections from Mr Mansfield that the case would be prejudged because of Lord Lane's findings in a similar action earlier this year.

Lord Lane said that although he could see no technical reason *why he should not hear the case,* he was willing to stand down.

Judgment was reserved to a date to be fixed.

NUM court challenge

The Yorkshire NUM is to seek to overturn a High Court ruling that the strike in its area is unlawful. The hearing, due to start on Monday, will be the first occasion on which any part of the union has challenged court orders.

Mr Justice Vinelott in the High Court in London was told yesterday that the area union would seek to discharge orders made by Mr Justice Nicholls in September that the strike was unofficial and that any strike call would be unlawful.

The judge's orders banning the area union from describing the strike as official or ordering members to strike and not cross picket lines will also be challenged, as will orders requiring the union not to implement the new NUM disciplinary code.

Drift back to pits met with force

The continuing drift back to work in the coalfields was met by more sporadic violence against police officers, individual miners, and coal board installations yesterday.

In separate incidents, police officers came under attack from petrol bombs, barricades burned at pit gates, and one colliery was subjected to a raid by a mob of a hundred dressed in balaclava helmets, camouflage jackets, and wielding pick axe handles.

The incidence of violence reported yesterday stretched from the "barometer coalfield" of north Derbyshire to the North-east, where growing anger has greeted the decision of 647 of the area's 22,000 miners to return.

Police officers in Sunderland are investigating an airgun attack on the home of Mr Kenneth Seed, a COSA official.

In north Derbyshire, police officers said they were investigating 16 revenge attacks on the homes and cars of working miners within the past 24 hours.

● In the Yorkshire coalfield petrol bombs were thrown at police officers at Goldthorpe colliery and at Saville colliery at Methley, near Leeds, where 17 of the 500 workforce turned in, *a convoy of cars drove into the* pit yard at high speed, and, according to the police, 100 "hooligans" in balaclava helmets and camouflage jackets and wielding pick axe handles, attacked the colliery buildings, smashing at least 23 windows and breaking down doors.

● Two policemen were injured, and five miners and a Mexican studying at a Scottish university, arrested, in violent clashes between 300 pickets and 150 police at Castlehill, near Dunfermline yesterday.

● Windows were smashed at Tilmanstone colliery, in Kent, where 47 men went to work, and at Betteshanger 16 miners and a pit deputy went in.

Doctors to suggest NHS drugs bill cuts

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

Family doctors' leaders are to put their own proposals to health ministers for cutting the National Health Service Drugs bill in an attempt to head off government plans to introduce a limited list of drugs on the NHS.

Dr Michael Wilson, chairman of the British Medical Association's general medical services committee, said that the Government's plans would be a bureaucratic nightmare, producing a two-tier health service "in which the ability to pay will determine the treatment a patient receives, not their clinical need".

Plans to restrict general practitioners to prescribing only aspirin or paracetamol on the NHS for minor to moderate pain would mean that terminally ill patients would be limited to those drugs or much more powerful narcotics if they could not afford other painkillers excluded from the NHS list.

At the same time, drugs excluded for treating mild to moderate pain, such as ibuprofen, were apparently to be allowed for treating arthritis. If doctors endorsed the prescription with that diagnosis it might then be possible to prescribe them. But that was a "bureaucratic and administrative nightmare.

Doctors' leaders are to *propose instead that a box* should be provided on prescription forms which would allow the chemist to substitute cheaper generic drugs for brand name products if the doctor ticked it. That, Dr Wilson said, could "quite possibly save more money" than the government's proposals.

The Government's proposals, however, received strong, if qualified, support from *The Lancet* yesterday.

Dublin train hijacked by gunmen

From Richard Ford, Belfast

Masked gunmen hijacked an express train near the Northern Ireland border yesterday and stole 15 mail bags in an attempt to get cash and valuables from registered packages.

The gang's plot is unlikely to have proved profitable because the Post Office said there was little registered mail on board the 8am Belfast to Dublin express.

None of the 55 passengers and 5 crew was harmed during the hijack in South Armagh.

● An internal settlement supported by the nationalist minority rather than pressing for a united Ireland is the preferred option for solving the Northern Ireland problem according to almost 60 per cent of those questioned in an opinion poll in the Irish Republic.

Trainer fined for suffering of racehorse

The racehorse trainer Harry Bell was fined was fined £500 yesterday for allowing a valuable thoroughbred to get *into a "deplorable" state.* A veterinary surgeon found the four-year-old mare to be thin, under nourished, and in very poor condition, a court at Jedburgh, in the Scottish Borders, was told.

Bell, aged 56, who owns a training establishment near Hawick, may face a Jockey Club inquiry. He pleaded guilty to permitting unnecessary suffering to be caused by unreasonably failing to provide the animal with proper veterinary care.

Cruise convoy followed

A cruise missile convoy left Greenham Common in Berkshire early yesterday for *Longmore Army camp in Hampshire* followed by two carloads of women from the peace camp outside the base.

The convoy of four cruise missile launchers, two control vehicles, several trucks, and police vans, was greeted at *Longmore by a group of* demonstrators who had been alerted by Cruisewatch, an organization backed by the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament.

The Times overseas selling prices
Austria Sch 29; Belgium B frs 50; Canada $2 75; Canaries Pes 170; Cyprus 700 mils; Denmark Dkr 8 50; Finland Mkk 8 00; France Frs 7 00; Germany DM 3.50; Greece Dr 100; Holland Gl 3.40; Irish Republic 40p; Italy L 2200; Luxembourg Lf 38; Madeira Esc 125; Morocco Dir 8 00; Norway Kr 8 60; Pakistan Rps 18; Portugal Esc 125; Singapore $5.50; Spain Pes 170; Sweden Skr 8.50; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Tunisia Din 0.700; USA $1 75; Yugoslavia Din 150

Dismissal warning for GLC staff

By Hugh Clayton, Local Government Correspondent

Mr Kenneth Livingstone, Labour leader of the Greater London Council, said yesterday that staff would be dismissed if they gave the Government information to aid abolition of the council in 1986.

Mr Livingstone's message, which had been given in a speech to supporters of the council's campaign against abolition, was published in the weekly newspaper *Labour Herald*. Mr Livingstone is one of its three joint editors.

"We have had information come to us indentifying a small group of officers within the bureaucracy who are giving out information to the Government. We have laid it down quite firmly that nothing goes out of the building without the agreement of members and that will take some getting", Mr Livingstone wrote.

"If any further attempt is made by officers to pass *information to the Government* they will be dismissed."

The GLC and the other six metropolitan county councils threatened with abolition have to tell business ratepayers about their spending and rating plans each year.

From December 6, they will be obliged to give similar information to the smaller councils, which are intended to take on much of their work.

A spokesman for Mr Livingstone said nothing would be done about the law until it had been debated by the appropriate GLC committees. "At first glance, if interpreted literally, it will be an absolute administrative nightmare."

She added that Mr Livingstone's threat was meant as a general warning.

Left-wing paper planned

Another proposal for a left-wing newspaper is being considered by the Greater London Enterprise Board, which has been asked to contribute £40,000.

Mr Clive Thornton, former chairman of the Abbey National Building Society and former chief executive of the Mirror Group, is the central figure behind plans to launch the *News on Sunday*, an alternative to *The Sunday Times* or the *Mail on Sunday*, with a target circulation of at least 300,000.

A feasibility study would cost an estimated £56,000.

CHRISTOPHER FILDES
on money:

"It is at least a tribute to the Chancellor's management of the currency that the unofficial privatisers still find the £20 note worth forging. A replacement arrives this week, but the great opportunity remains to be seized. What we need is the return of the finest banknote design ever seen – the stiff, crackling, handsome, heavy, utterly credit-worthy Bank of England note, remembered in its last surviving variant as the White Fiver. That would be money."

PATRICK SKENE CATLING
on his recent death:

"There was an unexpected knock at the door on Sunday after lunch. P.J. Barry, a local undertaker in his thirties with the alert features of a ferret, had driven the 12 miles or so from his Bantry embalming studio to ask the lady of the house, he explained, whether she would like his help with the arrangements for my funeral."

A.N. WILSON
on autobiography:

"It is almost impossible to write well about one's own emotional history, which is why, I suppose, most novels about love seem so much more plausible than most autobiographies."

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GRAHAM GREENE

Ford men reject 6% offer

Union negotiators at Ford rejected an improved 6 per cent pay offer to the car company's 40,500 hourly-paid workers yesterday.

Ford had increased its offer by 1 per cent and improved its pension scheme by what it said was the equivalent of nearly 1 per cent on wages.

The unions lodged a claim in September for a 14 per cent rise and a big cut in working hours.

Ford replied initially with a 4 per cent offer, which went up to 5 per cent at the last meeting, on November 5. The present basic pay for a 39-hour week for day work ranges between £110.77 and £142.98. This is increased, by alternating day and night work, to between £129.18 and £166.81.

A supplement of between £6.96 and £9 is paid when an employee works all the standard weekly hours.

● Union leaders at Austin Rover will meet today to consider their next move in the nine-day pay strike, against a background of growing defiance by shop-floor workers.

Modigliani nude brings in £3.5m

By Huon Mallalieu

The American appetite for Impressionist and modern paintings appears to be insatiable.

This week Christie's in New York has made more than $29m in its series of sales, and Sotheby's produced a little more in a single session on Wednesday evening.

Seven works were sold for more than £1m. The most expensive, a record $4,620,000 (£3.5m) was "La Reveuse", a reclining nude by Modigliani, sold by Sotheby's.

Six paintings which did particularly well came from the Boston collection of Mr and Mrs David Bakalar, including "La Femme à la Grande Toque" by Corot, which made $3,850,000 (£2.9m, estimate $2m to $3m). This has been seen as Corot's answer to the "Mona Lisa", and the price was easily a record.

In Geneva on Wednesday, Christie's took Sw Fr 11m (£3.5m) for the third-largest fancy blue diamond recorded in the world, the pear-shaped stone of 42.92 carats is mounted as a pendant, and it was bought by an Arab dealer.

At silver sales in Geneva on Wednesday, Christie's sold the London dealers Koopman and Armitage a papal presentation dish chased with the Rape of Europa, by G. F. Travani in 1670, for Sw Fr 1.1m (£354,840).

Sotheby's sold a silver-gilt toilet service from the estate of the late King Umberto II, dating from about 1775, for Sw Fr 330,000 (£106,451).

● Henry Spencer and Sons, of Retford, Nottinghamshire sold a work by the English post-Impressionist Sir George Clausen, for £62,000.

The unnamed owners of the painting, "Apple Blossom", believed the picture to be worth £1,500.

"La Reveuse", one of seven works for which more than £1m was paid in New York sales on Wednesday.

Times man wins top award

Charles Knevitt, architecture correspondent of *The Times*, is Architectural Journalist of the Year. The award was announced last night at a reception in London at which the Duke of Gloucester was guest of honour.

The award is given by the International Building Press and sponsored by the Royal Institute of British Architects. Mr Knevitt, aged 32, received a certificate and cheque for £300 from the Duke, who is an architect.

The three assessors said in *their report that his writing was* of a consistently high standard, combining "effective reporting and stimulating discussion".

Mr Knevitt joined *The Times* in April after four years on the *Sunday Telegraph*. The award was given for three articles which appeared in the 12 months up to September this year, on the proposed National Gallery extension for Trafalgar Square; the Classical Revival in Architecture; and the future of London's South Bank.

Selfridges pays damages and costs to woman wrongly accused of theft

By Michael Horsnell

The two-year ordeal of Mrs Maureen Steinberg, the racehorse owner and breeder who was wrongfully accused of shoplifting at Selfridges in the West End of London ended in the High Court yesterday when the store paid her £1,500 damages for defamation.

Mrs Steinberg's humiliation occurred after she bought three items from the Oxford Street store and stood talking to a friend on the pavement outside for 15 minutes.

It was then that a store detective accompanied by a police officer questioned her and searched her handbag.

Mr Justice McNeill was told by her counsel, Mr Thomas Shields, that when she produced receipts for the goods she had bought they left after apologizing for the mistake.

He added: "This incident, as one can well imagine, caused Mrs Steinberg immense distress and embarrassment. She is a woman of unblemished character and felt particularly humiliated that her honesty should be questioned in such a public manner."

Selfridges now recognized that any suggestion of dishonesty was wholly without foundation and agree to pay her the damages and all her legal costs, Mr Gavin Millar, the store's counsel, told the court.

After the hearing Mrs Steinberg said: "It was a nightmare in full public view. People looked from the tops of buses and passers-by stopped to stare. I felt grossly humiliated and terribly embarrassed."

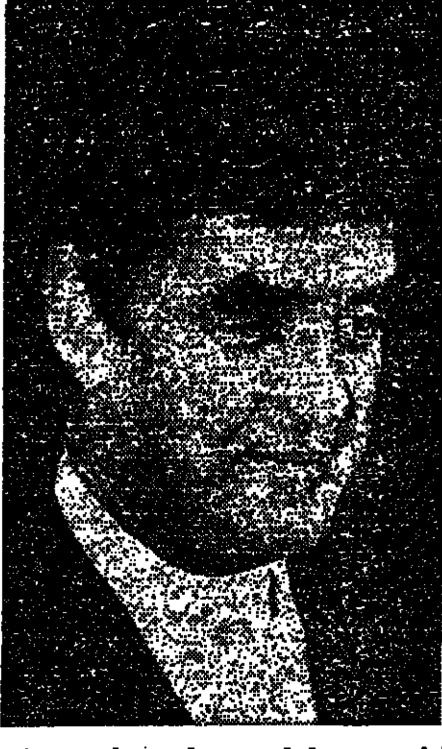

Mrs Steinberg: Immense distress

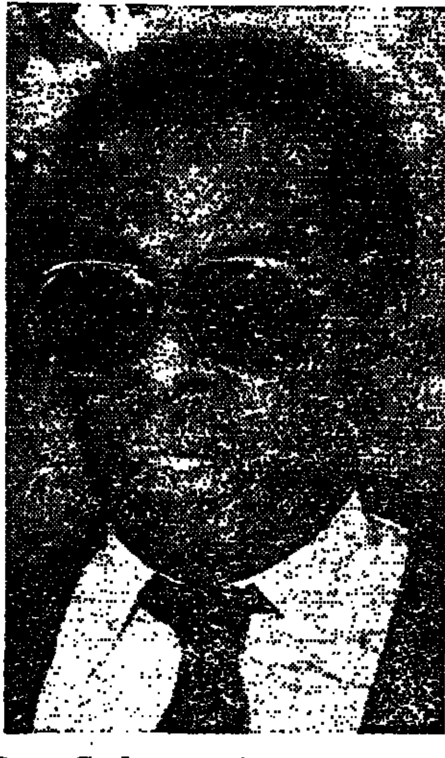
Mrs Steinberg, of Holland Park, west London, who attended the hearing with her husband Mr George Steinberg, said that the incident lasted only about five minutes.

"But it left me terribly ill and upset. I suffer from a heart condition and had to see my doctors because of the worry. The effect was so bad I didn't go into a store for a month. Even now, nearly two years later, I am frightened about going into a store. I did not take them to court for money but to clear my name.

"Many people don't have the resources to do anything about it as it costs several thousands of pounds to bring the action for defamation of character.

"There are proper procedures to follow where they can take you to a private room, not subject you to public humiliation."





Among those who attended a memorial service to Leonard Rossiter at St Paul's Covent Garden, yesterday were (left to right) Derek Nimmo; Mr Rossiter's widow Gillian Raine, and Don Warrington, a co-star in the television series *Rising Damp*. (Photographs: Chris Harris). Report, page 18.

Allison's dismissal claim is rejected

Malcolm Allison lost his unfair dismissal claim against second division Middlesbrough Football Club, yesterday. Mr Allison, age 57, who was dismissed in March, "became the author of his own misfortune", the industrial tribunal chairman, Mr Basil Lauriston, said.

Mr Allison caused the rift with the board "and that rift eventually swallowed him", Mr Lauriston said.

"We are quite satisfied that no matter what warnings or consultations had taken place, it would not have changed the result one iota", Mr Lauriston said at the end of the four-day hearing in Middlesbrough. "He was 100 per cent to blame for his dismissal."

Mr Allison had claimed he was unfairly dismissed after refusing to sell players as part of a survival plan.

Mr Lauriston said Mr Allison had misled the club into believing he was trying to sell players to ease crippling financial difficulties. His contract included mention of bonuses to be paid on successful transfer sales, the tribunal was told.

"We have no doubt that he knew perfectly well that the club was relying on him to sell players."

Mr Lauriston said the club had the right and duty to manage. "They were in dire trouble. It is all very well to say that footbal clubs just do not fold. "That may be some people's view and the view of history. But if you happen to be the board of directors standing there with bank specialists from London and eminent chartered accountants telling you otherwise, it seems perfectly reasonable that they should indeed be very worried."

"Mr Allison knew what was going on, but was shutting his ears to it and certainly shutting his heart from it. But he was under a duty to carry out these instructions."

The club said afterwards that it would not apply for costs.

Inquest told of Alan Lake's depression

Alan Lake, the actor, told his housekeeper a few minutes before he killed himself that he was "in more trouble than you will ever know", an inquest was told yesterday.

Mrs Honor Webb, of Birch Hill, Bracknell, Berkshire, described how Mr Lake, the husband of the actress Diana Dors, had taken a telephone call, after which he sat on the stairs with his head in his hands.

"He didn't say who it was from", Mrs Webb told the inquest at Chertsey, Surrey. "I thought that he was worrying about some people coming to look at the house. He never wanted to sell it, but I said that he would be fine when they got there. Then I said to him that he looked very pale and to put some rouge on his face.

"His very last words that he spoke were: 'No, Honor, it is not that. I am in more trouble than you will ever know.' I said to him: 'All your problems are big ones in your mind', and that was it."

The inquest was told by Home Office pathologist, Dr Keith Mant, that Mr Lake had died instantly as the result of a shotgun wound to his left temple.

When questioned by the deputy coroner, Mr Michael Burgess, about the mental state of the actor, who would have celebrated his forty-fourth birthday on November 24, Mrs Webb said he had been very depressed after the illness and death of his wife, Miss Dors.

Mr Burgess recorded a verdict that Mr Lake took his own life while suffering from a depressive illness.

Virgin's travel offer to flight entertainers

By David Cross

Mr Richard Branson, the head of the cut-price airline, Virgin Atlantic, is to extend its provision of live entertainment on its transatlantic flights.

To date magicians, musicians, clairvoyants, and even a pearly queen have travelled with passengers to keep them amused during the airline's flights between Gatwick and Newark, New Jersey.

Mr Branson explained yesterday that the airline was interested in contacting any acts that could perform in the limited space available on a Boeing 747. In return for their services, the entertainers would travel free of charge.

Virgin Atlantic also entended its operations yesterday with a new service from London to Maastricht, southern Holland.

Its first 89-seat BAC 111 left Gatwick for Maastricht with passengers paying an introductory one-way fare of £16 for the 70-minute flight. The company claims that it is the lowest fare of any scheduled carrier across the Channel.

The initial £16 fare will increase to £25 after three weeks with an additional £14 surcharge durign Christmas

● The Government yesterday rejected a further attempt by British Airways, TWA, and Pam Am to introduce a winter return air fare of £259 return to New York (the Press Association reports). The fares had to be rejected until it could be guaranteed that United Kingdom airlines would not be sued in United States courts for "predatory" price cuts.

Fight to cut £60m BBC revenue loss

By Richard Evans

A new campaign against television licence defaulters is being planned by the Home Office in an attempt to ease the BBC's financial problems before next month's negotiations over the new licence fee.

An estimated 1,500,000 out of 20 million households with televisions avoid buying the licence, resulting in the loss of £60m revenue.

The present colour fee of £46, which produces an annual revenue of £750m, could be cut by £5 if licence avoidance was eradicated.

With the BBC widely expected to ask the Home Office for the fee to be incrased to £67 for the next three years, the Home Office is concerned that law-abiding viewers will resent a big increase, given the present level of evasion.

Among the ideas being canvassed is for the fee to be collected with purchase price of a set or to be directly linked to rental charges. Such a scheme could cut out hard-core offenders, particularly in rural areas and city tower blocks, where detection vans are least effective.

But officials are aware that such a plan is unlikely to please television dealers and could require legislation, so the Home Office is consulting the BBC over other ways to deal with offenders.

But the fact such ideas are being seriously discussed by the Home Office is added confirmation taht the BBC faces a tough fight in obtaining a big fee increase.

Increasing the present maximum £400 fine for licence avoiders has been ruled out be Home Office officials.

BBC's cultural role

Blankety Blank and phone-in shows were among the "crudities and trivialities which inevitably characterize a mass medium", a senior BBC executive said last night in one of the clearest statements for a long time on the BBC's "high cultural" role (Our Social Policy Correspondent writed).

Mr Ian McIntyre, controller of Radio 3, told a lecture audience at St John's College, Cambridge, that the BBC should never be ashamed of the word "elite".

He said BBC executives should not allow concern with money and resources to talke precedence over editorial and cultural values, and criticized mass media studies, modern preoccupation with the technology of broadcasting, and imprecision in the use of English.

Beaujolais lorry men found drunk

Two French lorry drivers bringing the first of this year's Beaujolais Nouveau into Britain from France were arrested at Dover Eastern Docks yesterday for drink-driving.

The men, Rene Maureille, aged 41, of Dijon, and Jean Beuret, aged 31, of Angier, were each fined £150 with £20 costs yesterday by Dover magistrates after pleading guilty to driving after consuming two and a half times more than the limit.

They were both banned from driving on British roads for 18 months.

The court was told that Maureille was unsteady on his feet and his eyes were glazed when he was asked to get out of his lorry. He added that Beuret was found slumped over the wheel of his cab at the immigration freight controls.

Third victim of shooting dies

Lesley Stanners, aged 33, a teacher, who was apparently shot by her fiancé on the eve of their planned wedding, has died in Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge. She was the third person to die in the incident.

Mrs Stanners, a divorcee, was to have married Alan Sanford, aged 38, an engineer, at Diss register office in Norfolk on Wednesday. On Monday night she confronted Sanford, with her mother, to tell him that she was calling off the wedding. The police believe Sanford, who belonged to a local gun club, then shot the two women before turning the weapon on himself.

Heart-lung man dies

Mr Sandy McKenzie, aged 22, a heart-lung patient at Harefield Hospital in west London, died on Wednesday. Mr McKenzie, of Pontypridd, mid Glamorgan, had the operation on September 25 and had made good progress for five weeks, the hospital said, but last week complications set in related to his original illness, cystic fibrosis.

A woman aged 21, died in the operating theatre at the National Heart Hospital in London yesteday after receiving a new heart.

Bridge crash court martial

Commander Colin Hamilton, aged 40, captain of the frigate HMS Jupiter, which collided with London Bridge on June 13, is to face a court martial at Portsmouth on December 4, charged with negligence.

The 2,900-ton Jupiter, in which the Prince of Wales served, moved a granite section of one of two central supports about eight inches.

Officer did not stab deliberately

A Jamaican Army officer was cleared yesterday of deliberately stabbing a Royal Marine over a racial jibe.

After the verdict at Exeter Crown Court, Second Lieutenant Karl-Gunnar Charles-Harris said that he planned to celebrate with the man he almost killed.

The court was told during the four-day trial that Second Lieutenant Charles-Harris, aged 20, picked up a knife after Second Lieutenant Andrew Quinlan called him a "black twat" in a dispute over cleaning a machine gun.

Second Lieutenant Charles-Harris said that Second Lieutenant Quinlan, aged 20, was his friend and he had not meant to use the knife, but "I lost my cool".

The jury cleared Second Lieutenant Charles-Harris of malicious wounding

The alleged attack happened in May at the Commando training centre, Lympstone, Devon, where both men were on a course.

The knife went in almost to the *hilt* and pierced Second Lieutenant Quinlan's heart. He nearly died, but luck and prompt medical attention saved him.

Mr Christopher Wilson Smith, for the prosecution, said that Second Lieutenant Charles-Harris, one of two Jamaicans in the group of 18 undergoing training at Lympstone, "lost his temper in an uncontrollable way".

He insisted that he had no intention of causing injury

Centre to give advice to debtors

The National Consumer Council claimed yesterday that the number of people in debt is increasing at a frightening rate.

In an attempt to tackle the increasing problem, the first National Money Advice Association was announced in Birmingham today by Mr John Ward, chairman of the National Consumer Council.

Mr Ward said: "Once people start falling into arrears, it is very difficult to stop the slide downwards. The effect on people, and especially their families, can be devastating. To make matters worse, there are not enough money advice specialists to cope with the increasing problem."

The association will provide free advice to anyone in need. It also hopes to become a national voice on all money problems affecting consumers.

He said that there has been a threefold increase in mortgage arrears since 1979 and one in every 1,000 mortgages is now more than 12 months behind in payments.

Four in heroin plot jailed

Four men were jailed yesterday for a £2m heroin smuggling plot involving cleaners at Heathrow airport. The men who were convicted at Reading Crown Court had denied smuggling 17.1 kilograms of heroin on October 21, last year.

The convictions came after eight weeks observation by customs officers.

Inderjeet Balu, aged 43, and his brother, Sarup, aged 40, both cleaning supervisers, of Greenland Crescent, Southall, west London, were jailed for nine and twelve years respectively. Inderpal Makh, aged 37, a cleaner, of Weekes Drive, Slough, Berkshire, was jailed for three years and Santokh Johal, age 37, an electrician, from Amritsar in Punjab, was jailed for seven and a half years.

Terror that haunts inner city women

Half the people who live in inner Liverpool say they are too scared to walk the streets after dark. Women and the elderly live in fear of attacks and some say they even feel unsafe in their homes.

Details of the "curfew" lifestyle emerged from the first findings of a report on crime on Merseyside. Mr Richard Kinsey, criminology expert at Edinburgh University, who presented the report, said yesterday: "The picture which has emerged is quite clear: the people of Liverpool's inner-city, especially the women, are living under curfew. The poor worry more than anybody else, but they ave more to worry about."

In Toxteth, scene of the 1981 riots, three quarters of the people interviewed thought there were risks for women who went out at night. On council estates outside the city centre, things were not much better, he said. But there, one of the main reasons for people staying home was the fear of burglary.

The report, conducted over the past 12 months, disclosed that the Merseyside burglary rate is three times higher than the national average. The report has been sponsored by Merseyside County Council with the Merseyside police at a cost of £94,000.

A sample of 3,600 people were interviewed throughout the county, including 1,400 in five small, representative districts. A final report will be published in February, 1985.

Mr Kenneth Oxford, Chief Constable of Merseyside, said: "There is little of what Mr Kinsey says that surprises me. I think he deals a lot in myths and legends. But on the other hand we have to look at it analytically. "We can't ignore it or dismiss it as 'rubbish'. It supports a lot of the views we have made in the past."

PARLIAMENT November 15 1984

NCB cannot go beyond deal with deputies

COAL DISPUTE

The National Coal Board could move no further in negotiations on the coal dispute, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said during questions in the Commons. She was agreeing with Dr David Owen, leader of the SDP, who had called upon her to make clear that there would be no question of reopening negotiations on the Nacods settlement.

She said that when the miners' strike ended the Government would have to build on moderate, responsible, reasonable and constructive trade unionism.

That comment was attacked by Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, as a humbug and Mrs Thatcher retorted the she could not give him any lessons in humbug on which he was a self-appointed expert. Mr Kinnock had echoed from a safe distance the condemnation of violence made at a mass NUM meeting by Mr Norman Willis, General Secretary of the TUC.

Mr Kinnock did not have the guts to go and do it himself, she said to loud Conservative cheers.

In the exchanges Mr Anthony Marlow (Northampton N, C) urged her to do all she could to heal the wounds caused by eight months of the picket violence and Scargillism.

Mrs Thatcher: I welcome the condemnation of violence that have occured in the last few days. I regret that it was not all universal.

I believe that when the strike ends, and I hope it ends very soon, we will have to do as much as we possibly can to build on moderate, responsible, reasonable and constructive trade unionism.

Mr Dafydd Wigley (Caernarfon, Pl Cymru) asked what steps the Prime Minister would take to help alleviate the social and economic consequences of the strike.

Mrs Thatcher: The Government has already provided the financial support so that the NCB is able to offer the miners a good wage increase, a guarantee that any miner who wishes to continue in the industry will be able to do so, an investment programme which will enable the industry to improve its productivity and increase its markets, and the creation of a new enterprise company to bring new businesses to mining communities.

Two of the three unions in the coal industry, as well as one third of the members of the NUM have already accepted the NCB's offer.

Since the beginning of last week more than 6,500 miners have returned to work. I hope those remaining on strike will follow their example.

Mr Wigley: The great solidarity shown in Wales with the coal miners arises out of the fears of communities that they will be wiped off the face of the map if mines close in those communities. The experience in getting other jobs to the valley communities under this Government had given them no confidence.

Trying to starve the miners back to work will not solve the basic problems which have caused the strike, but instead will add to bitterness.

Mrs Thatcher: Uneconomic pits have had to be closed for a long time. That was right under the duty of the NCB to run and develop the coal industry efficiency. It was always understood that the closure of uneconomic pits was covered in the review procedure.

Some miners are at work in Wales. I hope their numbers will increase because most MPs on this side and many people in the coal industry want to get back to normal and earn good money, and get decisions made which need to be made, and *get work going on the* new enterprise company and bring in new jobs.

Mr Neil Kinnock: In view of her record, her answer to Mr Marlow *will be regarded as complete* humbug, inside and outside the House. If she genuinely wants a speedy end to the dispute and subsequent harmony in the coalfields and elsewhere, she will intervene to ensure that the four million tonne cutback is withdrawn since reality had made it redundant.

Will she also intervene to ensure that the colliery review procedure is fully restored in line with the Plan for Coal.

Mrs Thatcher: I cannot give him any lessons in humbug. (Laughter) what he has said indicates that he is a self-appointed expert.

He said things about a ballot at the beginning of the strike and then we heard virtually nothing about it until a few days ago. It took a distinguished trade unionist to condemn violence at a mass meeting of the NUM and *Mr* Kinnock echoed it from a safe distance. Mr Kinnock did not have the guts to go and do it himself. (Uproar)

About the colliery review procedure, he knows that the coal board have always honoured that. I do not know why he asks that again and again.

The settlement between the coal board and Nacods, the pit deputies union, was excellent, is on the table and I hope it will be picked up by those on strike.

Mr Kinnokck: Once again she dodges into incidentals, will she meet with the leadership of the NUM to explain . . .

Conservative MPs: You.

The Speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill): Order. This is a question of great importance to the House and the country.

Mr Kinnock: . . . *to explain just how* it is that after eight months in which she has allowed the costs of the dispute to go up to £3,000m she sustains the idea that the hit list *should stay* and *that* no other changes be made and she still tells the country that she wants a peaceful end to the dispute?

Mrs Thatcher: I urge Mr Kinnock to look at the Nacods settlement. He will find the answer to what he has asked. Heu knows that all five pits will go through the colliery review procedure as enhanced in the Nacods settlement.

It is for the NCB and those on strike to come to a settlement as with Nacods. Will Mr Kinnock urge them *to go back to work?*

Conservative MPs: Answer.

Sir Anthony Grant: (South-West Cambridgeshire, C): Despite the excellent financial arrangements properly being made by the NCB for the miners, will the Prime Minister nevertheless recognize the enormous courage which is required to go back to wok in the face of appalling intimidation-something alien to this country.

Will she say a word of praise that the lead in going back to work has taken place in Derbyshire and Bolsover. (Laughter)

Mrs Thatcher: Nottinghamshire is full back to work for some time and the return in Derbyshire and Bolsover has been excellent. I join him in admiring the courage and bravery of those who have gone through violent picket lines.



Grant: Courage required to go back to work

Many would like to return inspite of the strike being maintained by intimidation.

Mr David Owen, Leader of the SDP: The sight of the Leader of the Labour Party and other Labour leaders as they seek to distance themselves from Arthur Scargill is reminiscent of rats leaving a sinking ship (Loud laughter with Labour and Conservative MPs pointing at him)

Far from taking any lessons from the Artful Dodger, will she make it clear that there will be no question of reopening negotiations on the Nacods settlement.

Mrs Thatcher: I agree that the NCB *can move no further.*

Mr Don Concannon (Mansfield, Lab): My views on violence and intimidation have been on record for a long time. (Cheers)

At the Guildhall earlier this week, the Prime Minister seemed to imply that those miners going to work all through the strike and going back agreed with her and her policy and with Mr Magregor. Let me assure her that they do not.

The argument in Nottinghamshire is strongly one not in favour of *implying* recognition of her policies of those of the NCB.

Mrs Thatcher: I made no such assertion as Mr Concannon implies. The miners who have gone back do so because they are *loyal people,* standing up for democracy and loyalty to the industry, making certain that those who give them their custom get security of supply. They are doing what most people want to do: earning an honest living to keep their families.

International tax

Mr John Moore, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, in a Commons written reply, said he had authorised the Inland Revenue to publish that day a consultative document on the tax treatment of dual resident companies.

Callaghan plea for more funds

OVERSEAS AID

Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, explained in the Commons that she could not reopen this year's public expenditure review of the overseas aid budget.

Mr James Callaghan, the former Prime Minister (Cardiff South and Penarth, Lab) appealed to her to reconsider the budget.

I believe Mrs Thatcher would be meeting the wishes of MPs on both sides of the House he said if she asked the Cabinet to reconsider the total Foreign Office vote for overseas aid, the news services and the British Council, all of which are so important to our influence overseas, and to make another reappraisal and come back to the House.

Mrs Thatcher: Mr Callaghan will be the first to be aware that when one has considered and finalized the PESC, *it is unlikely that any of it* can be reopened. It really cannot be reopened.

There are only two departments which have precisely the same *figures for the coming year* as they wre to have from the last White Paper. One is foreign and the other defence.

If Mr Callaghan will contain his *impatience there may be a debate on* this issue next week

● Later it was announced that there would be a debate on Thursday on overseas aid on a *Liberal Party motion.*

Next week

The main business in the House of *Commons next week will be:*

Monday: Films Bill, second reading.

Tuesday: New Towns and Urban Development Corporation Bill, second reading. Elections (Northern Ireland) Bill, remaining stages.

Wednesday: Civil Aviation Bill, second reading.

Thursday: Debate on Liberal Party motion on overseas aid.

Friday: Debate on Warnock committee report on human fertilization and embryology.

The main business in the House of Lords will be:

Tuesday: Bankrupcy (Scotland) Bill and Family Law (Scotland) Bill, second readings. Debate on Nicaragua.

Wednesday: Debate on work of research councils.

Thursday: Food and Environment Protection Bill, second reading.

Lawson: Next Budget will be framed to cut unemployment

THE ECONOMY

Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, assured the Commons that he will frame his next Budget very firmly with a view to the best prospect for a continuation of lower inflation and rising employment.

He also indicated that the new regional development grant policy which will be announced later this month would be more job related than under the existing system.

However, he resisted the suggestion that the most direct impact on unemployment could be achieved by investment in the national infrastructure as proposed by the Confederation of British Industry.

The effect of investment in the infrastructure on unemployment (he said) would be very slight indeed, even in the short term.

The Chancellor said that dispite the miners' strike and events in the United States where interest rates had risen so sharply, the level of interest rates in Britain was no higher than at the time of the last election and was set to go lower. He hoped that before long they would see interest rates come down further.

Government policy of progressively reducing the PSBR as a percentage of gross domestic *product would be continued.*

Questions on the state of the economy, Mr Lawson said output had been rising at rate of 2.5 per cent since the trough of the recession.

Employment (he continued) has risen by an estimated 250,000 over the year to June and is expected to continue to rise. But had real wages *grown less rapidly, employment* would be rising faster and unemployment would not now be rising.

Jack Straw (Blackburn, Lab): Mr Lawson's answer shows a staggering complacency about the state of the economy. While in 1979 our performance on inflation as well as unemployment was the average of the seven major OECD countries. our performance now on inflation is still the average but our performance on unemployment and manufacturing output is the worst of any *of our major competitors.*

When does Mr Lawson believe manufacturing output will return to its 1979 level? It is 10 per cent behind that level now.

Mr Lawson: Since the general election to the latest available figures, unemployment was a regrettable 3.7 per cent in this country compared with 5.2 per cent in the rest of the European Community, employment was up 1 per cent whereas there was no increase at all in the rest of the Community, and GDP was 2.9 per cent up compared with only 1.5 per cent in the rest of the Community.

Mr Nigel Forman (Carshalton and Wallington, C): If we are to create enough new jobs to counteract the rise in unemployment, it will be necessary to give greater emphasis in the forthcoming budget to findings ways of lowering industry's costs to facilitate that process.

Mr Lawson: I agree that the next Budget, as was the last with the abolition of the National Insurance surcharge and reform of corporation tax, must be framed in such a way as to encourage the creation of new jobs. That is why reductions, particularly direct taxation, are so important too.

Mr Jack Dormand (Easington, Lab)–: When will Mr Lawson stop giving credance to the myth that public borrowing in this country is dangerously high? It is 35 per cent of GPD compared with 4.5 per cent in other industrial countries. Tight *fiscal policy* is the major cause of our having four million unemployed.

Mr Lawson: On the contrary, first of all we do not have four million *unemployed, I am glad to say.*

The recovery which we are now seeing – and the facts I know are very unpalatable to the Oppsition – began when the present Foreign Secretary, *Sir Geoffrey Howe,* courageously made a major reduction in the borrowing requirement in the 1981 Budget.

Mr John Townend (Bridlington, C): One way to increase employment still further would be to remove restrictions and rigidities in the labour market and let market forces work. It is time we did away with wages councils and the National Dock Labour Board.

Mr Lawson: The question of wages councils is obviously one we shall be looking at very closely indeed.

Mr Roy Hattersley, Chief Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs: What is his estimate of the course of unemploy*ment during the next year?*

Mr Lawson: Everything this Government is doing to designed to create the maximum opporunity fo new jobs. I have never made forecasts of unemployment and *do* not intend to make them now.

Mr John Morris (Aberavon, Lab): How does the Chancellor's statement that it has been a good year precisely affect the over 5,000 unemployed in my constituency and particularly those who have been unemployed for a long time?

***Mr Lawson:** I share his concern for* those who are out of work but the *plain fact is that the vast majority* of the people in this country who are in work are enjoying record living



Davis: Raise PSBR to provide jobs

standards, their output is at all-time record levels and fixed investment is running at an all-time high.

I do wish Labour MPs would give a balanced picture of the economy. We in the Conservative Party are perfectly ready to acknowledge the acute problems of high unemployment. We make no secret of that. But among Labour MPs there is no readiness whatever to acknowledge that *anything* conceivably could be going right in the United Kingdom.

Mr Terence Davis, an Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs; if the Chancellor *can increase this year's PSBR by* £1,500m to fight the miners, why does be refuse to increase next year's PSBR to provide jobs for the unemployed?

Mr Lawson: Most people would reckon that the cost of keeping the power stations going despite the miners' strike is a cost well worth incurring. As for next year's PSBR, he will have to wait until next year's Budget to discover what that will be.

Mr Timothy Eggar (Enfield North, C): Does the Chancellor think it likely that unemployment will fall over the course of this Parliament? What additional measures is he taking to ensure it does fall?

Mr Lawson: The Government's economic policy is designed to create conditions that will allow new jobs to emerge. It is not governments directly which create jobs, it is business and industry that create jobs. Our job is to create the climate so that business and industry can create new jobs. That is what we have done.

Mr Tim Yeo (South Suffolk, C) said that Arthur Scargill had destroyed other workers' jobs.

Mr Lawson: Mr Scargill has destroyed jobs in a number of industries both directly and indirectly by causing interest rates to rise higher than they would have done and also been threatening the future of the mining industry. The sooner this strike is over the better.

Mr Hattersley: Mr Lawson refuses to make estimates about unemployment. Will he accept the generally held view that under the present policies there will be no significant fall?

Mr Lawson: Of course I will give no such assurance for the lifetime of this Parliament. When Mr Hattersley was a minister he also refrained studiously from making such forecasts.

● Allthe indications were that there would be a further good year for fixed industrial investment in *1985,* **Mr Lawson,** the Chancellor, said during other exchanges.

Total fixed investment this year was expected to be at an all-time record. In the first half of 1984, manufacturing investment was up *15 per cent on a year earlier.*

***Mr Peter Thurnham** (Bolton North* East, C): This should lead to extra and more secure jobs in manufacturing industry.

Mr Lawson: Yes, it is of vital importance that we have profitable investment for future development of the economy.

Mr Robert Jones (West Hertfordshire, C): There is widespread concern in the construction industry that the level of investment is not affecting them in the same way-it is affecting the rest of the economy.

Mr Lawson: I am aware of concerns of the construction industry and that what it wants to see above all is lower interest rates, because that is perhaps the most interest rate sensitive industry.

That is why this Government's policy to create conditions in which interest rates can come down further is most important. The recent reduction in mortgage rates is a welcome indication.

Mr John Evans (St Helens North, Lab): Can the Chancellor confirm that notwithstanding *the level of* investment in manufacturing industry, the Treasury confidently expects employment to fall in the manufacturing sector.

Will the Chancellor also acknowledge that while we have 3,250,000 benefit claimants in this country, there are over four million *unemployed, many of whom used* to work in manufacturing industry.

Mr Lawson: Manufacturing investment is on a clearly rising trend and the latest figures for manufacturing employment was that it now appeared to have stabilized and employment in manufacturing has been rising steadily since the middle 1960s.

Voters will have to carry means of identification

ULSTER

The scale of the problem of personation at elections in Northern Ireland had changed so dramatically *in recent years that it amounted to a* threat to the integrity of the electoral system, **Mr Douglas Hurd,** Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, said when moving the second reading of the Elections (Northern Ireland) Bill which will strengthen safeguards against the practice of voting as another person.

At the general election in June 1983, he said, some observers believed as much as 20 per cent of the Sinn Fein vote was acquired by malpracitce. The precise figure was difficult to assess but it was significant.

The Government had concluded the right course was to require voters to produce one of a *number* of specified documents. This system could be quickly applied, it would be effective and disrupt the traditional voting system to the least possible extent.

The Bill created an offence of having certain documents on polling day for the purposes of persenation and gave police the necessary powers to search vehicles *and premises on polling day. The* new offence would attract penalties of up to two years imprisonment or a fine of both.

The Government did not have a *closed mind on the documents* which might be prescribed. At present it thought the list should include the following: a current British and Northern Ireland *driving licence, but not a provisional licence;* a current United Kingdom visitors or Republic of Ireland passport; a current book for the payment of allowances, benefits *or pensions issued by the DHSS for* Northern Ireland; a medical card issued by the Northern Ireland central services agency; a marriage certificate issued by the regisatrar *general for England and Wales,* Scotland and Northern Ireland in the case of a woman married since qualifying.

Introduction of a Bill of this kind represented a departure from the traditional British way of holding an election. He regretted that and regretted the necessity of introducing this Bill, but of the necessity he had no doubt.

Mr Peter Archer, chief Opposition spokesman on Northern Ireland, said this was a Bill about electoral democracy. There was no hope for the people of Northern Ireland if they lost confidence in constitutional poicies.

There was good cause for introducing some measures of the kind proposed in the Bill. There had been a suggestion, however, that a special document, an identity card would have to be produced to obtain a ballot paper. His initial *reaction to that was that most* people already had to abtain and take care of a wide array of documents and that to add one more would be an unjustifiable burden.

Mr Enoch Powell (South Down, OUP), moved an OUP amendment declining to give a second reading to a Bill which offered no satisfactory means of establishing that a person requesting a ballot paper was in fact the elector he claimed to be.

Mr Powell said one was prejudiced in favour of a measure *on the understanding that its* purpose was to reduce the scope and possibilities of elecoral abuse. So it was with regret that he and his colleagues, having studied the *Bill*but also the details withheld *from it – the documents required to*



Powell: Redolent of haste and almost panic

be produced – had concluded that the measure, on balance, would not be beneficial; that it would be onerous to the genuine elector without being effective in checking *the abuse at which it was aimed.*

The whole matter ought to be looked at again. Indeed it was puzzling that the Bill should have been brought forward with so much *pressure. Its whole content* and the manner of its presentation were redolent of haste and almost of panic which were bad counsellors in amending the fundamental law of *the UK as it affected the* representation of the people. There had not been any real consultation on the contents of the measure.

It was frequently stated that there had been an increase in abuse in the Province. But evidence to justify MPs in taking the proposed measures on the grounds that there was a growing process which had to be checked, and checked immediately despite the difficulties, had not been available. Mr Hurd had not produced any.

We are (he said) making the possession of a document which the citizen does not need to hold the condition of exercising his franchise.

It was a Bill which would be *oppressive to the genuine elector,* perhaps on a massive scale, without being effective.

The Rev Ian Paisley (North Antrim, DUP) said if the Government dealt with the security situation and proscribed Sinn Fein there would not be any need for such legislation.

Improved safety at work sought

HOUSE OF LORDS

The Government had failed to recognise there was any problem over health and safety of employees in medium and small factories, offices and shops despite the fact that many of them had little or no medical cover. **Lord Gregson** (Lab) said when opening a debate in the House of Lords on a report on occupational health and hygiene services.

The report was against the imposition of statutory obligations on employers despite strong support *for this from the TUC and the* nursing profession. Instead it recommended encouraging employers to provide services voluntarily through a non-statutory code *of practice.*

In spite of a detailed exposition of the situation the Government and the Health and Safety Commission failed to recognize any problem existed. *The report was even borne* out by a report of the Inspector of Factories.

As a result the Government argued that occupational health should not be considered part of primary medicine, but that was exactly what it was. The Government was also mistaken in concluding the report recommended *the service should become part of* the national health service when nothing could be further from the truth.

The Government had said it would be concerned if the volume of occupational health work became so great that it affected the capacity of doctors to provide basic primary cares services. But with so many doctors unemployed this *would* be an inexpensive means of providing new employment.

Lady Cox (C) said the Royal College of Nursing was concerned with the patchiness of provision of health and safety at work which ranged from the very good to the barely adequate to the non-existent.

The college was disappointed at the decision to opt for a *voluntary* code rather than a statutory one.

Lord Taylor (Ind) said he calculated there were 160,000 factories in the country employing less than 100 people and in *90* per cent there was no medical cover other than a part time first-aider. Of the 11,000 factories employing between 100 and 500 people, half had no adequate cover.

That meant there were around three million employees without proper medical cover. The problem could be overcome by grouping them together so that doctors *could* deal with them in their own health sectors.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Friendly Societies Bill and Mineral Workings Bill, second readings.

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Minister insists industry chief be appointed to run health authority

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

The West Midlands regional health authority is set for confrontation with Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister for Health, over his insistence that someone from business or industry be appointed manager of the authority.

Mr Clarke has finally rejected the region's recommendation that the job should go to Mr Kenneth Bales, its administrator, after he won the post in open competition with outside candidates.

The authority, which has more Conservative than Labour members, unanimously backed Mr Bales's appointment this month, despite pressure from Mr Clarke, after its selection panel had considered a further ten names, including unsuccessful candidates for chairman of the new management board.

Mr Clarke wrote to Mr James Ackers, chairman of the West Midlands region, saying: "I regret I am unable to approve the appointment of Mr Bales". The next step was for a meeting "to discuss how the selection process can be reopened".

At a closed meeting on Wednesday, however, the authority unanimously reaffirmed its decision.

Mr Clarke, has powers though, to dismiss the authority and put in commissioners.

Senior authority members said they were stunned and apalled at Mr Clarke's decision, which seems to reflect increasing desperation to have at least one outsider appointed to the top general manager posts under the Griffiths reorganization of health service management.

Twelve of the 14 regional managers' jobs have gone to insiders, and the remaining region to appoint, East Anglia, is also under strong ministerial pressure to go outside, despite favouring its administrator, Mr James Stewart.

Mr Ackers, a close political colleague of Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, and Mr Clarke, both of whom live in the West Midlands, refused to comment.

But the authority's longest-serving member, Mr John Parkinson, principal of Solihull College of Technology, said: "Mr Bales is a first class choice in whom I and every member of the authority has absolute confidence. My own personal view is that we should stand firm, whatever the Minister wants to do."

Authority members said outside candidates interviewed did not match up to the job, while the names put forward for later consideration had in many cases commanded salaries of £60,000 or more, against the £30,000 most general managers are receiving.

Any outsider forced on the authority would face an impossible job. "He will be caught between the authority who will see him as the minister's man and have no confidence in him and his management colleagues who will know he has been put there against the authority's choice", the member said.

Inquiry on beached documents

By Michael Horsnell

Hundreds of Royal Navy papers washed up on a beach near the Portland naval base have proved to be obsolete declassified material, the Ministry of Defence said yesterday as a security scare subsided.

But the ministry already embarrassed by a missing log from the submarine HMS Conqueror, which sank the Argentine warship General Belgrano, has started an inquiry.

The security papers, from handbooks on automated tracking and plotting systems, were discovered on Wednesday by an unnamed private security consultant. They were strewn across a mile-long stretch of beach between Burton Hive and Freshwater Bay, Burton Bradstock, near Poole, Dorset.

They were thrown overboard from a Royal Navy ship in the Portland area and washed ashore by freak tide, wind, and currents, the ministry said.

A diving team from the base gathered up the documents.

A ministry spokesman said: "They do not relate to weapons systems and are obsolete, but the matter is nevertheless disturbing.

"The handbooks from which they were torn were restricted but have since been superseded. They would normally be ditched ashore, but it is permissible to dispose of them at sea. Space is at a premium on board ship, and of course paper is regarded as a fire risk."

The General Synod

Runcie favours women priests

The Archbishop of Canterbury gave his support yesterday to the appointment of women priests within the Church of England.

But Dr Robert Runcie said that for the sake of church unity any such radical change had to be gradual. The Archbishop, speaking during a debate at the General Synod on the ordination of women, indicated that despite his view he would vote against a motion to ordain women priests.

"I have been convinced that the arguments for the ordination of women now tip the balance favourably," but a decision by the Church of England depends upon more than archiepiscopal theological opinion. Against what all admit to be a radical change must be balanced both ecumenical reticence and the internal unity of the Church of England.

"I therefore urge the synod to adopt doctrine of gradualism as an argument of principle, not expediency."

Dr Runcie said that until the church had more experience of women deacons and women priests from abroad, he did not believe it could move with integrity to legislating for their ordination.

His comments could tip the balance. Members of the Synod, the governing body of the Church of England, are known to be deeply divided, although surveys have shown that most church members favour women priests.

This month 15 bishops wrote to *The Times* giving their support. In a letter published on Wednesday a former Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord Coggan, added his support.

If the Synod votes in favour of women priests, that will lead to steps aimed at changing the legislation governing the ordination of priests, which could take several years.

In 1978, the Synod failed to return the majority required for a similar motion.

The public gallery at Church House, Westminster, was packed. Many women serving in some capacity within the church were there.

Evidence of how divided the Anglican Church is came with



Dr Habgood: "Wrong debate at wrong moment".

the announcement that 106 people had asked to speak.

Dr Runcie admitted that he had "consistently driven down the middle of the road" on the issue. "But we cannot help causing grief to those who feel moral scandal at the way women have been excluded from power and authority throughout society in the past.

"I cannot conceal my conviction that we have a duty not to be seen to be acting in abrasive and unfraternal disregard of very large Catholic bodies with whom we share the fundamentals of faith."

He said that his decision not to support an immediate change in legislation was reluctant, but the church had a responsibility to give a good example of the way in which fundamental change could be achieved.

"For this reason we would be unwise at this moment to call for legislation."

The Bishop of Southwark, the **Right Rev Ronald Bowlby**, who moved the motion, said: "I want to argue that the only way to safeguard the doctrine of God in its fullness is to ordain women as well as men."

He said that Jesus was a Jew. "If Jewishness is not exclusive, because the gospel rapidly spread to other parts of the world, why the maleness when the gospel belongs as much to women who are baptized into Christ as it does to men?

"You cannot block this aspect simply on the ground that it is divisive. The whole thing is bound to be divisive for a time."

The Archbishop of York, Dr **John Habgood**, said the difference between himself and the Archbishop of Canterbury was very small.

"I believe it is a pity to start on highly contentious legislation so near to the end of this Synod's life. If we pass this motion today nothing much could happen until the next Synod is elected. This is going to mean in practice that the Synod election will be dominated by the issue.

"Having explained why I think this is the wrong moment, I want to explain why at the end I shall vote for the notion.

"To defeat it at this stage would be a crashing blow to a cause in which I believe. I believe in the ordination of women. I believe that this is inevitable and that the theological arguments in its favour will eventually prevail.

"The problem, as I see it, is how to persuade the Church, the whole Church, to accept it gladly and willingly".

He said if the synod carried the motion he would use his position in the standing committee to persuade it to take things slowly, not as part of a foot-dragging exercise, but to allow new conversations to take place both between the churches and within the Church of England, in the light of the new situation".

He felt the weight of the objection that the Church of England was setting itself up as some funny little independent entity. But it had embarked unilaterally on synodical government a fundamental shift in itself in the church's self-understanding. That had already gravely complicated the Church of England's relationship with the Roman Catholic and the Orthodox churches.

A shining example in private enterprise

By Alan Hamilton

City stockbrokers have taken a shine to Mr David McCann, whose business has grown by 900 per cent in two years.

The financiers are not yet quoting McCann shares on the Stock Exchange, nor even on the Unlisted Securities Market. He cleans their shoes. Two thousand pairs a week, usually with the feet still in them.

Mr McCann, aged 24, was an unemployed bus conductor when, in November, 1982, he walked into his local job centre in Hackney, East London, to discover an advertisement from an American businessman in London for someone to perform the kind of service to which he had become accustomed in Wall Street. A twice-weekly shoeshine at his desk while he worked.

Word spread. Encouraged by the American, Mr Gary Klesch, chairman of a Regent Street financial house, Mr McCann won sponsorship from a shoe polish manufacturer, who supplied polish and uniforms of red jacket and blue trousers, and he persuaded his father to make some shoe boxes. This week he recruited his ninth shoeshine boy.

Mr McCann in turn advertised for staff at his job centre. His youngest shoeshine is 17, and had been unemployed for more than a year. The oldest is his brother Terry, aged 28. The boys charge 75p a shine, and pay Mr McCann a rental for putting the business their way. The boss himself has not yet grown too big for his boots; he still goes out every day with his own box and brushes.

He likes to have a whole office full of clients; one client a building is clearly not cost-effective. Nor does he believe in setting up his pitch on the street or in a Tube station, as some rivals have tried; waiting for customers is time wasting when compared with a book full of firm orders.

"Men put their clothes on first in the morning, then they put their shoes on last and look at them. By then they haven't got time to clean them, or they are afraid of getting polish all over their nice suits. Anyway, I can polish shoes much better than they can", said Mr McCann, whose own footwear would not disgrace a Guards' parade.

His assistants on parade to be photographed exhibited varying degrees of gloss, from dazzling mirror to the frankly non-reflecting.

"It's very satisfying running your own business. I hope it gets bigger", said Mr McCann, who confesses that he still has a long way to go to his first million. "I would never be unemployed for long; I would always wash cars or clean windows. There is no end of opportunity today for these little service jobs."

He hopes the business will continue to grow. There is, he believes, still a vast untapped resource of dirty shoes within the Square Mile.

"This guy is a real entrepreneur. He will go far", said Mr Klesch, looking down at his dazzling toecaps and being able to see up his own nose.



Mr McCann (foreground) working with his staff at the offices of Quadrant Securities (Photograph: Dod Miller).

Whitehouse leads lobby in push for private Bills

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Mrs Mary Whitehouse, the veteran campaigner, yesterday led the field of lobbyists in the annual Commons race for private members' legislation.

The first 20 MPs' names drawn for Bill sponsorship in the new parliamentary session included only five Labour MPs and the top three places were taken by Conservatives, which provoked the wry observation from one unlucky Labour MP that the Fates too, were Conservative. In fact, more than one third of Labour's eligible 205 MPs had not even submitted their names for the draw; a formidable handicap in any such context.

Meanwhile, Mrs Whiteouse, president of the National Viewers' and Listeners' Association, was busy sending out letters to the top 10 MPs with a suggested Bill to combat paedophilia, described by Mr Justice Owen as a "contemptible and loathsome" practice in a case at the Central Criminal Court this week.

While fellow campaigner Mr Geoffrey Dickens, Conservative MP for Littleborough and Saddleworth, folded letters and licked envelopes addressed to potential sponsors, Mrs Whitehouse said: "I can't see any member who values his seat not being prepared to give this Bill his full backing".

The success of private members' Bill sponsorship depends essentially on the nature of the legislation; anything controversial can be blocked by determined opponents, no matter how high the MP's name comes in the draw.

Mr Robin Squire, Conservative MP for Hornchurch, the only high-ranking name present at yesterday's draw, said afterwards that he would probably go for a Freedom of Information Bill, giving greater access of ratepayers and councillors to local authority papers and documents.

He also favoured electoral reform to allow local authorities the opportunity to use proportional representation; the registration of plumbers to outlaw the "cowboys": and a liberation of Sunday trading, which is the subject of a Home Office report to be published next week.

The top 20 names in the draw were: Mr Neville Trotter, C, Tynemouth; Miss Janet Fookes, C, Plymouth Drake; Mr Squire; Dr David Clark, Lab, South Shields; Mr Enoch Powell, Official Ulster Unionist, Down South; Mr William Powell, C, Corby; Mr Michael Grylls, C, Surrey North West; Mr John Carlisle, C, Luton North; Mr Gerald Bermingham, Lab, St Helens South; Mr David Madel, C, Bedfordshire South West; Mr Charles Morrison, C, Devizes; Mr Michael McNair-Wilson, C, Newbury; Mr Keith Raffan, C, Delyn; Mr Ernest Roberts, Lab, Hackney North and Stoke Newington; Mr Ivor Stanbrook, C, Orpington; Mr Geoffrey Lawler, C, Bradford North; Mr David Nellist, Lab, Coventry South East; Mr Derek Fatchett, Lab, Leeds Central; Mr Peter Fry, C, Wellingborough and Mr Timothy Smith, C, Beaconsfield.

Horse racing park sold

The future of one of West Yorkshire's most famous racing areas, the 200-acre Grange Park at Wetherby, is guaranteed because of a farmer's happy memories of his boyhood cricket pitch.

Mr David Hudson, aged 60, of Ings House, Linton, near Weatherby, said he bought the land, which came up for sale with the pitch, for £390,000, to preserve the pitch.

Local racehorse trainers had been worried about their future in the area.

Mr Jack Hanson, Mr John Doyle, Mr Harry Wharton, and Mr Richard Whitaker train about seventy horses between them and Mr Hudson said yesterday that he hoped the trainers would continue to use the gallops on terms to be agreed.

Catholic bishops support doctors' petition on pill

By Our Social Services Correspondent

Roman Catholic bishops yesterday backed a petition by 2,000 doctors urging the General Medical Council to change its ruling that doctors can consult the parents of a girl under 16 about whether to prescribe contraception only if she gives her permission.

The Conference of Catholic Bishops of England and Wales, in a statement, said: "Parents' responsibility must not be undermined. Parents have a duty and a right to bring their children to moral and social maturity.

"Professional people engaged in medical, social, educational, and juvenile justice services must respect and promote responsibility and frame their professional guidelines accordingly.

"This emphasis on parental responsibility is required, especialy in those delicate moral and emotional situations involving artificial contraception and abortion which, in fact, we hold to be immoral. To envisage such procedures without parental consent is an affront to parental rights and a further undermining of family life which our society can ill afford.

"If a doctor in a specific case decides that it is unwise to involve the parents, the onus is on the doctor to justify his decision. However, the community will expect the GMC to insist that in normal circumstances the doctor will work in cooperation with the parents.

School outbreak

A hundred children at St John's Church of England School in Worksop, Nottinghamshire, have been affected by suspected salmonella poisoning

'Nuclear alert' was ticking geiger counter

Four fire appliances, nuclear health and safety physicists and the police went to Temple Mills railway marshalling yard at Stratford, east London, yesterday after a railwayman reported a ticking noise coming from one of two nuclear waste flasks on a train.

The police cordoned off the area around the train while people living locally were evacuated.

When the white corrugated cover of the carriage was lifted off it was found that a radioactivity monitoring device, otherwise known as a geiger counter, had been left attached to one of the 48-ton flasks.

The Central Electricity Generating Board said someone had left it there after a routine safety check on the flask, which was empty. It had left Sellafield nuclear reprocessing plant and was bound for Sizewell nuclear power station.

Peacock aims Liberal election manifesto at Australian families

From Tony Duboudin, Melbourne

Mr Andrew Peacock, the Leader of the Australian Opposition, made a strong pitch for the votes of the family man and small businessman when he launched the Liberal Party policy for the election on December 1.

He said that Australia had not been built by big governments or big unions or big business. "They played their part but the real Australian success story is the story of men and women who struggled hard against the odds, who got things going and who provided a better life for their children," he said.

"Our country was built by people who are sometimes referred to as 'ordinary Australians' but who are in fact the real heart of our nation."

Mr Peacock said that the Opposition had a vision for Australia "to match the challenge of the world we live in and it starts with the family".

He then committed his party, among other things, to:

- Cut income tax for families with children by allowing income splitting.
- Help the elderly by repealing Labour's asset's test on pensions.
- Abolish the extra tax on superannuation lump sums.
- Restore choice in Medicare, the health care system.
- Start to restore defence spending cuts.
- Give tax relief to small business, including a commitment to cut company tax from 46 cents to 41 cents in the dollar over a period of time.
- Widen opportunities in education and further training.
- Help primary industry to reduce excessive costs.

Mr Peacock said those measures would be introduced in the Opposition's first budget if it were elected. "We will not promise more in our first budget than be believe we can fulfil."

Mr Peacock departed from the traditional Liberal Party policy launch by releasing a 53-page policy paper early yesterday entitled *The Liberal Direction for Australia – Stand up for your family*. That was followed by a lunch-time rally in Melbourne and a half-hour documentary-style television launch in the evening.



The Melbourne rally, held in the open air, was watched by about 1,500 people and started with a drum-roll to announce Mr Peacock who emerged flanked by his wife Margaret and daughter Anne to an enthusiastic welcome.

There was little in Mr Peacock's policy document which had not been canvassed already in earlier releases and campaign speeches and there was no indication of overall cost. However, there were some initiatives particularly in relation to small business and the young unemployed.

The Liberals said that they would set aside A$25m (about £17m) in their first budget to reduce the company tax on small business.

For the young unemployed the Liberals offer a new programme to be known as Workprep to provide remedial training for the most disadvantaged unemployed under the age of 30.

"This will be designed to improve the reading and writing skills of young people, increase their motivation, and provide work experience and competence of a kind which will improve the individual's chance of gaining stable employment," Mr Peacock said.

Mr Peacock also promised to cut the budget deficit and reduce interest rates, make radical changes to Australia's industrial relations system, abolish the Arbitration Commission, scrap the prices and income accord and encourage a return to wage bargaining between unions and business.

To finance income tax cuts, Mr Peacock said the Liberals would initiate a shift toward more indirect taxes, beginning in the first term of office.

The Liberal document is an all-out effort by the opposition to close the gulf between it and the labour government by aiming its policy at the moderate and conservative voter in that shifting middle ground which labour has successfully captured.

Tokyo guard on plutonium shipment

From David Watts
Tokyo

About 300 riot police stood by yesterday as a Japanese freighter arrived in Tokyo Port with a load of reprocessed nuclear fuel from France.

A security ship of the Maritime Safety Agency warded off seaborne demonstrators as the Seishin Maru tied up after a 40-day voyage along a secret route which was continuously monitored by satellite for fear of terrorist attacks. It is believed that Japanese sharp-shooters were on board to repel any assault during the vessel's voyage from Cherbourg with about 130,000lbs of plutonium dioxide.

Port security was strict as the plutonium was loaded on to six articulated lorries for transfer to the main Japanese nuclear research facility at Tokai Mura.

Ethiopia's drought victims wait for help to arrive

Brave smiles: Hungry refugees at the Mekele camp in Tigre province

Emergency spreads to Somali border

From Carol Berger
Addis Ababa

Lack of rain and the pressure of 300,000 returnees have prompted the United Nations High Commission for Refugees to lobby for international relief in south-eastern Ethiopia.

Harer, the vast semi-desert region bordering Somalia, has still to recover from the 1977-1978 Ogaden war. The Somali invasion of eastern Harer was in support of claims to what it called Greater Somalia. Six years after the Somali defeat at the hands of the combined forces of Cuban and Ethiopian troops, the area remains remote and torn by strife. In most areas south of the main town of Harer, only the towns along the main road are considered secure. Military convoys are used to reach the south and the eastern border areas.

Like the famine-stricken north, a sparse and insecure road network has left the region prone to nationalistic rebels and insurgencies from Somalia. It also means that government and aid officials speak in terms of "the reachables" – those who live along the main roads or can reach those areas.

In 1983 the commission carried out a programme which registered 90,000 people who had come back to their home areas from Somalia. More than 3,500 families received livestock to assist their reintegration into home areas. The assistance brought a second wave of returnees at a time when food aid to refugees in Somalia was being cut.

An exhaustive registration of returnees carried out in the past six months has now brought the number of returnees to 300,000. They have returned to join more than 500,000 people severely affected by drought. In the case of Wollo, in northern Ethiopia, there are no food reserves left.

The situation in the Harer region is not so grave, but the authorities are concerned that the worsening conditions will bring yet another movement of refugees into Somalia.

The commission's mandate includes the assistance of returnees and refugees only. For the coming year the approved budget in Harerge is only $1m (£780,000) to assist 50,000 returnees. As aid officials say, to make any distinction between returnees and local people in need is nearly impossible. If aid does not reach the area, both returnees and those affected by drought will cross the border into Somalia and Djibouti. Stabilization of the area will be set back even further.

Somalia's continued support of secessionist ethnic Somalis in the Ogaden has meant retaliation by Ethiopia through support of Somali dissident groups. As recently as late August a landmine set by rebels killed at least one person in southern Harer. During the same period, residents reported that the Somali-backed Western Somali Liberation Front had moved several hundred miles inside Ethiopian territory.



The past year also has seen heavy clashes between the Ishaaq people, who live on both sides of the north-eastern border with Somalia, and the Somali-speaking people of the Ogaden. There is speculation that the Ethiopian Government is supporting the Ishaaq aggression.

Contrary to announcements early this year, the substantial Cuban military force has not been withdrawn from Ethiopia. About 4,000 did depart in January, but up to 5,000 Cubans are still stationed in mainly northern Harer.

The Cuban military force played a decisive role in the Ethiopian victory of 1978. Today they carry out training of Ethiopian troops in northern Harer.

RAF men figure out the benefits

From Thomson Prentice
Addis Ababa

It is impossible to calculate how many tens of thousands of bellies have been filled, bodies warmed and lives saved, so the RAF bookkeepers content themselves with columns of pounds and tonnages.

After 10 days of Operation Busmel, the famine relief airlift based in a corner of Addis Ababa asirport, the two elderly Hercules transport planes have delivered 1,309,381lb of grain to crowded feeding centres around the country. In a dawn-till-dusk operation, the planes shuttle between the capital and the port of Assab, from there to rough landing strips at Aksum, Mekele and Asmara, and back again, three of four sorties a day.

Apart from the grain, which is ground at the centres, the aircraft have also delivered three five-ton lorries and 2.7 million blankets. The lorries help to distribute food among remote camps while the blankets go towards making fragile structures that shelter

Yesterday one of the Hercules flew 700 miles south to Nairobi to fetch 10 tons of food, medical supplies and provisions for a team of 30 Save the Children Fund workers operating in the devastated Wollo region.

The RAF crews and their ground-support staff have no chance to see the results of their work, but the international passenger list of television crews and journalists who queue up to fly with them, assure them of how to airlift is helping to keep many thousands of people alive.

"It's satisfying work," said a sergeant from the Mobile Air Movements Squadron, known to themselves and others as the Muppets. "This is the sort of job we are trained to do but, we don't often get the opportunity. We know the scale of the problem is colossal and we're very keen to give all the help we can."

Letters, page 17

Appeal for EEC to cut red tape

There will be an inevitable need for a new effort to fight famine in Ethiopia from next March, Mr Edgard Pisani, the European Commissioner responsible for Third World policies, told the European Parliament in Strasbourg yesterday.

He said that a third consecutive year of drought was looming which would increase present problems.

He blamed himself for having failed in the past to make the Community understand the extent of the disaster. He pleaded to all members in future to cut through the red tape which significantly slowed and cut back aid programmes.

The Parliament approved an EEC aid budget for next year totalling £556.55m. It included £2.5m specifically designed to help charities to buy surplus grain at as much as 25 per cent below the market price.

African leaders agree to set up disasters fund

Addis Ababa (AFP) – African leaders approved proposals yesterday to set up a special fund to combat natural disasters such as drought, and agreed to hold an economic summit next year.

Member states of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) meeting here also adopted a declaration which called for a moratorium on debt repayments and satisfactory negotiations with the European Economic Community on a new Lomé Convention.

The economic summit is to be preceded by a meeting of finance and foreign ministers, possibly next February, sources close to the conference said.

The idea of a fund and a special ministerial meeting was proposed by Algeria, which made an initial contribution of $10m (£7.9m).

The proposed summit would look again at the OAU's Lagos plan of action on African economic development, drawn up at a special OAU meeting

Meanwhile, a struggle was developing here for the selection of a new Secretary-General. The favourite was the Nigerian, Mr Peter Onu, a former deputy secretary-general who took over the top job temporarily last year when the conference failed to decide between two candidates from Francophone countries, Mr Paul Okumba of Gabon and Mr Alioune Blondin Beye of Mali.

Vietnam crash orphans are awarded $19m

Washington (AFP) – The US Government and the Lockheed Aircraft Corporation have agreed to pay $19.7m (£15.39m) to 78 Vietnamese orphans in Europe and Canada who were injured in the crash of a US military aircraft near Saigon in 1975.

The tentative agreement, made public yesterday in the US District Court here, needs the judge's approval before it can become final.

The case stems from the crash of a Lockheed-built, US Air Force-operated, C5A transport plane carrying 330 people, mostly infant orphans, from South Vietnam to homes in Europe and the US in what was termed Operation Babylift.

A total of 135 people, including 93 of the 247 orphans on board, died in the crash, which occurred 25 days before the fall of Saigon.

A US Air Force investigation showed that the crash occurred because a lock system failed and the aircraft's doors were blown off at 23,000 ft. The pilot crash-landed the plane in a rice paddy.

Under the terms of the settlement, Lockheed and the US Government will pay $14.5m in cash to the orphans. Another $2.9m will be placed in a trust fund for the most severely injured

China sweetens offer to Taiwan

Madrid – Taiwan can keep its own army and capitalist system if it becomes part of the Chinese Peoples Republic, Mr Wu Xuequian, China's Foreign Minister, said here, (Harry Debelius writes).

His remarks, made at a News conference in connexion with the official visit of President Li Xiannian of China, were quoted by newspapers here yesterday.

Mr Xuequian accuses the Taipei Government of trying to hide Peking's proposals for a reunited China from the Taiwanese people.

All smiles as Koreans turn the table

From Our Own Correspondent, Tokyo

The first economic talks between North and South Korea since the partition of the country ended on a high note in Panmunjom yesterday with an agreement to resume them next month and the promise of broader exchanges.

The Northern delegation went into the talks apparently determined to make them a success, the most solid sign yet that there is a substantial shift of policy under way in the North, not only in opening up the economy but in dealing with the in-erstwhile bitter enemies.

Not even the South Korean delegation's mention of the Rangoon bombing took the smiles off the faces of the Northern delegation led by Mr Li Sung Rok.

Seoul had promised not to raise political questions at the talks. They were careful not to blame Pyongyang for the outrage.

The second sign of the Northerners' seriousness was a decision that future talks, which may alternate between Seoul, Pyongyang and other cities in the South, will be closed sessions, indicting that the North is interested in them not merely for their propaganda value.

The friendly atmosphere also permitted another first. Ever since the Panmunjom truce village was set up at the end of the Korean war delegates from North and South have met either side of a long table, decorated at each end with the flags of North and South, with the border between the two countries cutting straight through the centre of the table running East to West.

Yesterday, with seven rather than the usual five delegates on either side, the table was swung through 90 degrees with the northern delegates unequivocally in the south and vice versa.

هكذا من الأصل

Commonwealth class of '84: A royal occasion for the High Commissioners



Commonwealth high commissioners pose in the green drawing room of Marlborough House where the Queen, together with the Duke of Edinburgh, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, and Mr Sonny Ramphal, the Commonwealth Secretary-General, attended a dinner hosted by the high commissioners.

Seated with the Queen and the Duke are (left to right): Mr Shafiq Arain (Uganda); Dr Claudius Thomas (Eastern Caribbean): Mr Arden Shillingford (Dominica); Sir Geoffrey Howe; Mr George Mamba (Swaziland); Mr Ramphal; Mr Tasos Panayides (Cyprus); Mr Victor Sumner (Sierra Leone); Mr C M Mkona (Malawi); Ratu Josua Brown Toganivalu (Fiji).

Standing (left to right): Mr A. R. Parsons (Australia); Mr Gian Nath (Mauritius); Mr Ilinome Tarua (Papua New Guinea); Mr Yeop Adlan (minister, Malaysia); Mr Frank Abdulah (Trinidad and Tobago); Mr Ibrahim Karfi (Nigeria, acting HC); Mr Donald Jamieson (Canada); Mr Francis Cassar (Malta, acting HC); Mr K. K. S. Dadzie (Ghana); Mr S. A. Mpuchane (Botswana); Mr Richard Demeritte (Bahamas); Mr H. S. Walker (Jamaica); Mr B. K. Kipkulei (Kenya);

Lieutenant-General Peter Zuze (Zambia); Dr Herbert Murerwa (Zimbabwe); Mr Cedric Joseph (Guyana); Mr Oswald Gibbs (Grenada); Mr Fakhruddin Ahmed (Bangladesh); Mr Chandra Monerawela (Sri Lanka); Dr H. Forde (Barbados); Mr William Young (New Zealand); Mr Ron Sa: nders (Antigua and Barbuda); Mr S Tu'A Taumoepeau-Tupou (Tonga); Mr Robert Delpech (Seychelles, acting HC); Mr Rudolph Castillo (Belize); Shri N.S. Choudhray (India, minister); (behind) Mr A Magere (Tanzania, acting HC); Mr O. T. Sefako (Lesotho); Mr Samuel Sarr (The Gambia).

Absent were Pengiran Setia Raja Pengiran Haji Jaya (Brunei) and Dr Ho Guan Lim (Singapore).

Commonwealth piles pressure on Britain to stay in Unesco

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

Forty-two Commonwealth countries have made an eleventh hour appeal to Britain to remain in the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (Unesco) after a crisis meeting in London.

But many feel their combined pressure will not dissuade the Government from joining the United States in deciding to give notice to quit.

Most of the high commissioners or their deputies based in Britain attended yesterday's meeting at New Zealand House, convened by their doyen in London, the High Commissioner for Swaziland.

They agreed to write to Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, arguing for Britain to seek reform of Unesco from within. Their letter will follow a similar appeal earlier this week by Mr Sonny Ramphal, Secretary-General of the Commonwealth, on behalf of his members.

"The high commissioners noted that Britain has taken initiatives to begin the process of reform of Unesco, and these initiatives have had the full support of Commonwealth countries," a statement on the meeting said.

One official present emphasized that there was no animosity towards Britain at the meeting. "It was very constructive," he said.

The West German delegate to Unesco, Herr Alfred Vestring, should have been quoted yesterday as saying he was very unhappy, not happy, with the prospect of British and US withdrawal from the organization.

Los Angeles police seize 85-year-old Nazi Croat

From Ivor Davis
Los Angeles

Marshals and local police wih guns drawn burst into the home of Mr Andrija Artukovic and arrested the Croatian exile aged 83, described as being one of the highest-ranking Nazi war criminals still living in the US.

The Justice Department has been trying for more than 30 years to deport Mr Artukovic, a Minister of the Interior and Justice in Nazi occupied Yugoslavia who has been accused by the present Yugoslav Government of complicity in the murder of about 770,000 Serbs and Jews during the Second World War.

Mr Neal Sher, Director of the Justice Department's office of special investigations, described Mr Artukovic as the Henrich Himmler of the wartime fascist regime in Yugoslavia.

Officials who went to Mr Artukovic's beachside home in the guarded community of Seal Beach, about 30 miles from Los Angles took him into custody in an ambulance. He has reported to have suffered a series of strokes and to have a heart condition. He was taken to Los Angeles County Hospital where during a 90-minute proceeding he was formally charged with murder and ordered to be held without bail pending a hearing.

MEPs challenge Council over Euro budget

From Ian Murray, Strasbourg

The European Parliament set a collision course with member states yesterday. It overwhelmingly rejected the rules for controlling Community spending which were agreed only this week by the Council of Ministers.

The rules as they stand do not involve the Parliment, and that has infuriated MEPs. Their motion yesterday, passed by 203 to 7, was to serve as a mandate for their leaders when they meet the Council next Wednesday to demand a real say in what is going on.

According to Mr Piet Dankert, the former President of the Parliament, the new rules were a blatant attempt to undermine their powers. Worse than that, they would fail to do what they set out to do – curb farm spending. The best thing about them was that they would be obsolete within a year.

It was clear from the debate that MEPs are now sufficiently enraged by the way they are being treated by the Council that they mean to use this power to reject the Community budget for 1985 at their session next month.

Their anger centres on the way in which the British budget problem has been handled by the Council. MEPs resent the spending rules, which were brought in largely to satisfy British demands. They also dislike the fact that Britain in future is not to be paid rebates, which MEPs can control, but is simply to have its contributions reduced.

Those two points are seen as a formidable challenge to Parliament's less than mighty powers within the Community, and a large majority of members is determined to do everthing it can to fight back.

The rejection of the budget is the MEPs chief weapon. In giving a first reading to the 1985 budget this week, MWPs refused to accept the draft prepared by the Council, which will be enough to pay for only the first 10 months of the year. They added an extra £750m to pay for farming, plus another £213m on other policies. Most controversially of all they pretended the new agreement about the British contribution did not exist, and pretended the old system's rebates still applied.

All this amounts to a budget which the Council is certain to slash and alter fundamentally when it is reviewed at the end of this month. That in turn means that Parliament, in its present angry mood, will refuse to agree a budget for 1985.

In practice that would have little effect on running the Community since the Commission would ask each month for payment from member states equivalent to one twelfth of this year's budget. That would be almost as much as is likely to be available, even if the new budget is passed.

But difference is that Parliament would be holding the brand new Commission, which takes office in January, to ransom. It would be seeking to exploit this position to extend its powers and would try to wrest back more control from member states.

Yesterday the only votes against Mr Dankert's report came from British Socialists.

Carrington says Nato is on target

Brussels (Reuter) – Nato's Secretary-General, Lord Carrington, responding to US criticism of European defence spending, announced yesterday that seven West European allies would meet the alliance's goal of a 3 per cent real defence budget increase this year.

He gave the figure at a question-and-answer session with Nato parliamentarians in the North Atlantic Assembly.

Earlier, Senator Willian Roth, co-sponsor of a Congressional move to threaten US troop cuts in Europe unless the allies boost conventional defences, told reporters he was not satisfied with European efforts, despite recent pledges of improvements.

Lord Carrington told the 184-member assembly: "It so happens that this year seven of the European countries in Nato, and perhaps eight . . . have achieved the 3 per cent target".

The officials offered no explanation of how so many allies managed to meet the target, while last year only three European Nato countries, Britain, Norway and Luxembourg, achieved 3 per cent growth.

Church schools in Malta to open on Monday

Valletta: Malta's 78 church schools will reopen on Monday aftere an interim agreement between the Archbishop Joseph Mercieca, and the Prime Minister, Mr Dom Mintoff (our Correspondent writes).

As a sign of goodwill and to prepare for talks between the two sides, no fees will be charged until the end of the scholastic year.

The schools did not reopen as usual on October 1 after the Government's refusal to issue a licence for eight of them unless they provided free education.

Pullout negotiations resume

Lebanese proposals astound Israel

From Christopher Walker, Naqoura

Negotiations on Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon reopened here yesterday with deep disagreement over security for the occupied region and a formal demand by Lebanon for as much as $10,000m (£7,800m) in war reparations.

The border crossing between Israel and Lebanon hear by was closed to civilian and commercial traffic as security was stepped up after renewed threats from Islamic extremists.

United Nations officials said that special catering arrangements had been instituted to prevent the chance of delegates being poisoned and the building was shrouded by armoured cars and sharpshooters from three nations.

Brigadier General Muhammad al-Haj, leader of the Lebanese delegation opened proceedings with a bitter condemnation of Israel's policy in Lebanon, accusing it of wrecking the local economy and fermenting hostility between different communities.

He said that in addition to the devastation and destruction of towns and villages caused by the 1982 invasion, more than 1,000 Lebanese had been killed and more than 1,000 had been wounded.

The general rejected Israeli plans for securing its northern border from guerrilla attack. He spoke of the eagerness of the Lebanese people to be freed from the prison in which the Israeli occupation had been strangling them.

The hostile tone of his statement, which was quickly leaked to reporters waiting in the headquarters of the UN peace-keeping force, dismayed the Israeli team. But Israeli sources later expressed the hope that it had been delivered mainly for consumption in the Arab world.

The criticism of the occupation was accompanied by the first presentation of Lebanon's answer to Israel's plans for securing its northern border after an evacuation of troops. In private Israeli officers expressd undisguised disbelief over the sweeping role envisaged for the ineffectual Lebanese Army, Navy and Air Force.

Although the Lebanese Army has difficulty in policing its own capital, the plan included sending between 8,000 and 10,000 men southwards to take over from the Israelis, including two mechanized infantry brigades.

General Al-Haj also dismissed out of hand Israel's scheme to use the South Lebanon Army, the militia led by General Antoine Lahad, to police a buffer zone along the Iaraeli border. His statement described the 2,500 strong force founded by the late Major Saad Haddad as "an illegal armed organization".

BEIRUT
LEBANON
AWALI LINE
Sidon
Damascus
Israeli occupied
Zahrani
Tyre
SYRIA
Naqoura
ISRAEL
10 miles

Monthly inflation hits 24.3%

In the month before the deal on prices, wages and taxes, Israeli inflation reached 24.3 per cent, a record monthly high, the Central Bureau of Statistics reported. The figure represented an annual rate of more than 1,000 per cent. The actual increase over 12 months was 465 per cent.

2,000 held in Chilean army swoop

Santiago (Reuter) – Chilean troops swept through a working class suburb of Santiago yesterday, arresting all men aged 15 to 55 in the second such raid since President Pinochet declared a state of siege last week.

Witnesses estimated that about 2,000 men were detained in the swoop on La Victoria, a centre of anti-government protests, and taken to a football stadium in police buses.

Uniformed soldiers armed with automatic rifles surrounded the poor suburb to the south-west of the capital. They were backed by paratroops, helicopters and armoured vehicles.

Troops and police arrested more than 2,000 people in another Santiago suburb last Saturday. According to an official report, nearly 500 are still being held.

Residents of La Victoria were awakened by the clatter of helicopters as troops took up their positions before the end of the curfew at 5am.

La Victoria has been the scene of violent anti-government protests over the past 18 months. A French priest, Father André Jarlan, was shot dead there during one protest last September; his colleague, Father Pierre Dubois, said he was killed by a police bullet.

Thirty-two left-wing political and union activists, whose homes were searched on the first day of the state of siege on November 7, were sent yesterday into internal exile in remote parts of Chile.

The state of siege has brought confusion, fear and anguish, Archbishop Fresno of Santiago, said yesterday in a pastoral letter which he has asked his priests to read at every Mass on Sunday to bypass censorship.

He called for a day of fasting and prayer on November 23, and appealed to General Pinochet to take steps to allow a real national consensus on the future of Chile.

New court will try officers in Argentina

Buenos Aires (Reuter) – The government of President Alfonsin has shrugged off the resignation of all nine members of Argentina's Supreme Military Tribunal despite suggestions that it could delay trials of officers accused of kidnapping, torture and murder.

The military judges announced their resignations on Wednesday, but gave no reasons for their decision.

Human rights groups said the move showed the failure of Señor Alfonsin's policy of allowing the military to conduct its own trials of officers accused of crimes committed during eight years of military rule.

But a spokesman for Señor Alfonsin's administration said the resignations would clear the way for the President to appoint a new court for the human rights trials.

The military judges were also trying high-ranking officers for their part in Argentina's defeat by Britain in the Falklands

The tribunal said in in September that orders issued by military leaders in power from 1976 to 1983 were beyond reproach; it could only find the officers guilty of failing to control their men.

Aids blamed for deaths of babies

Brisbane (Reuter) – Three babies died here and another is seriously ill after receiving blood suspected of being contaminated by the deadly Aids virus.

The Queensland Health Minister, Mr Brian Austin, said an urgent investigation was under way after officials linked the deaths to transfusions from a male homosexual in Brisbane.

Legislation to punish people who give blood when they know they are suffering from Aids was later being drawn up and health officials were trying to locate more blood donated by the unnamed man.

The babies died in September and October at Mater Hospital in Brisbane after showing signs of Aids but discovery of the common source of the blood they received was made only this week.

North Koreans help Uganda

Nairobi (Reuter) – More than 200 North Korean troops have arrived in Uganda to help Government forces to rout insurgents from their strongholds, diplomatic sources in Kampala said.

The troops arrived in two planes at Entebbe airport on Tuesday, the sources said. They were taken to camps in the troubled Luwero district 40 miles north of the capital.

Hitler diaries man released

Hamburg (AP) – The confessed Hitler diaries forger Herr Konrad Kujau, aged 46, facing trial on fraud charges, was freed yesterday after 18 months in jail. No bail was required.

Prosecutors immediately appealed against the surprise decision and a ruling is expected within a few days. Several earlier applications for his release failed.

Record haul

Mexico City (Reuter) – Mexican police seized a record 13,000 tonnnes of marijuana and freed some 7,000 peasants held as slaves, the Attorney General's office said. The peasants had been forced to work on ranches where the mariujana was grown, dried and packed for sale in the United States.

Lawyer defects

Stockholm – Mr Hillar Raig, a 38-year-old lawyer and second secretary of the Soviet youth organization, Komsomol, in the Estonian town of Saku, asked for political asylum in Sweden after defecting during an official visit to Finland and taking the ferry to Stockholm.

Dali improves

Figueras (Reuter) – The Spanish surrealist painter, Salvador Dali, aged 80, has gained weight and overcome his horror of daylight since moving into a new home. He left hospital four weeks ago after treatment for burns

Shuttle pledge

Washington – As astronauts on board the Discovery shuttle prepared for their return to Earth today, President Reagan promised them his support for future space ventures in a call from the White House.

Miners killed

Johannesburg (AFP) – Three black miners were killed, 12 were injured and two are still missing after an underground rock burst at the Kloof gold mine south-west of here, a company spokesman said.

Gangbusters

Peking (AP) – Police nabbed a gang of 66 robbers and rapists in the northeastern city of Harbin, confiscating 26,000 yuan (about £8,500) in cash – 30 times an average annual salary – as well as a homemade pistol, daggers, two motor cycles, watches, cameras and appliances.

Police take assassin from hospital for interrogation

From Michael Hamlyn
Delhi

The surviving assassin of Mrs Indira Gandhi was formally arrested yesterday as he was taken out of the Ram Manohar Lohia hospital where he has been recovering from bullet wounds.

Police Constable Satwant Singh was shot by other members of the Prime Minister's guard and was taken to the hospital close to the administrative centre of New Delhi in the ambulance on stand-by at her residence.

Since then he has been isolated from anyone but his doctors, and access to the floor on which he was kept was discouraged by police guards and heavily-built security men in plain clothes.

Yesterday he was taken to a destination which has not been officially disclosed. According to one Indian news agency he is languishing in one of the special interrogation unit cells in the Red Fort, the Mogul bastion which towers alongside Old Delhi.

Other sources, however, claimed that he was in a special security cell in the south of Delhi, close to the village built for the Asian Games in 1982, or else that he was in a well-guarded hospital in the military cantonment on the west of the city.

He was officially described as fit by his doctors, but they were unwilling to commit themselves as to how well he would stand up to interrogation.

Newspapers in the capital have been diverting their readers with "exclusive" disclosures about what Satwant Singh has been telling his captors.

For example, the *Hindustan Times*, says that "reliable sources" attribute a disclosure to Satwant Singh that the assassination was financed from abroad.

He was said to have named those responsible for prompting him to carry out the killing, but the *Hindustan Times* sources did not want to reveal them "for fear it would jeopardize the investigations".

● **MEDICAL REPORT:** Dr N Safaya, medical superintendent of the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences, said yesterday that Mrs Gandhi died in hospital of shock after being shot by her bodyguards, but she was not "medically" dead when she was admitted to hospital (AFP Reports).

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17

Commentary



Geoffrey Smith

Mr Grigory Romanov, one of the most powerful leaders in the Soviet Union, read the riot act to the Finnish Communists a few weeks ago, castigating them for their disunity. Above all, he said, they must not split into two separate parties. Yet the chances have increased since his visit that that is precisely what they will do.

The episode is illuminating for the light it casts on the Soviet attitude towards Communist parties abroad, on the way in which the Soviet Union tries periodically to exercise pressure on Finnish politics, and Finnish feelings.

From time to time there has been a bitter division within the Finnish Communist Party between revisionists and Stalinists, with the moderate majority seizing control. The exclusion of the hardliners from all the seats of power has upset the Kremlin, but so has the weakening of the party as a force in Finnish politics.

It is no longer part of the governing coalition and has been losing ground steadily for some time. Once the largest single party in the country, it now stands no higher than fourth.

The 'pastoral letter' made a more sinister accusation

But the "pastoral letter" that Mr Romanov brought from Moscow made a more sinister accusation: that "certain members of the party leadership....have recently made numerous statements.... aimed at undermining the confidence felt by Finnish workers and the people of Finland in Soviet policy".

It went on to give specific warning that if the party were to disintegrate "it would then be easier for right-wing circles to undermine the joint positions of those forces that support President Mauno Koivisto's foreign policy line, a line aimed at cooperation and friendship with the Soviet Union."

This linking of the internal troubles of the Finnish Communist Party with relations between Finland and the Soviet Union naturally attracted attention. It meant that Moscow is sending two signals: one clear, the other in code.

The clear message was addressed to the party, particularly the moderate majority. The two wings were under orders to sink their differences forthwith. This has met so far with robust response.

When I was in Helsinki shortly after Mr Romanov's visit I took the opportunity to see Mr Arvo Aalto, the revisionist chairman of the party, a man four-square in appearance and in manner. "We are the Communist Party of a small nation," he said. "We are the Communist Party of Finland, we stand on our soil, we have strong ties to the Finnish people, we are ready to receive letters, but we will make our own decisions."

These words had the ring of a Finnish patriot. I was not surprised to learn that subsequently the majority wing has decided to set up a parallel organization of its own in those areas where the Stalinists are dominant, which is a further step towards separation. It now looks as if the central committee meeting next month may be decisive in determining whether the party holds together.

The coded message directed to all Finnish politicians

But Mr Romanov's letter also contained a coded message directed to all politicians in Finland, irrespective of party. It was to the effect that neither the Communist Party under its present leadership, nor the moderates as a separate party if there is a split, would be regarded by Moscow as acceptable members of a future Finnish government.

This is by no means the first time that Soviet leaders have sought to influence the composition of a Finnish adminstration. For some years before 1966 the Social Democrats were blackballed on foreign policy grounds. When a multiparty government was formed in 1958 under the leadership of a Social Democrat, Moscow imposed a freeze on nearly all aspects of Finnish-Soviet relations until the Government resigned.

The warning that it would be risky to give office to those blackballed by Moscow was not missed in Helsinki.

Whether a Soviet veto would still be effective today is unlikely to be put to the test soon because the Communists are not winning enough seats to merit inclusion. But it is interesting that it should be a wing of the Communist Party that should now attract this particular mark of disfavour from Moscow.

Spain looks into Flick payment reports despite González denial

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

The Spanish Parliament is to investigate allegations that money from the West German Flick industrial concern helped to finance Spain's Socialist election victory as part of an inquiry into the financing of all political parties.

The decision came after Señor Felipe Gonzáles, the Spanish Prime Minister and Secretary General of the Socialist Party, categorically denied that he or his party had received any money from the Flick group or West Germany's Social Democratic Party (SPD) after 1977, when all Spain's parties were legalized.

Socialist and Opposition parliamentary leaders yesterday were settling the details of an all-party investigating committee due to report in the next six months.

"Felipe González has not received a single Deutsch mark or peseta and I shall never have to rectify this statement," the Prime Minister told a hushed session of Parliament broadcast by the state radio and television.

The possible ramifications of the Flick affair have embarrassed the Socialists, who swept to power two years ago promising to clean up public and political life after 40 years of favouritism and hushed up scandals during the Franco era. For millions of ordinary voters Señor González offered a new ethical style. His party had campaigned with an election slogan: "One hundred years of honesty".

At the Prime Minister's behest, the Director of Public Prosecutions already is investigating the initial allegations, picked up by *La Vanguardia*, the Barcelona conservative daily, from the German press, that Herr Hans-Jürgen Wischnewsky, treasurer of the SPD, personally handed some of the money his party had earlier received from Flick to Señor González in Madrid.

Señor González presented in Parliament a statement on oath by Herr Wischnewsky that the allegations were unfounded. The Prime Minister was challenged to start legal proceedings in a West German court to clear his name, something he said he would consider after the parliamentary investigation.

In spite of Señor González's denials, the small minority who follow their country's politics closely appear disillusioned at the idea that Spain's new political class may be no better than their contemporaries in other European countries.

The Opposition is content that something of the allegations will stick, and that the Socialist image has been dented

Flick's last reel, page 15



Mrs Peters: Four-letter words and fury

Svetlana hits at TV men

Moscow (Reuter) – Josef Stalin's daughter, Mrs Svetlana Peters abused Western newsmen who approached her on a Moscow street yesterday but hinted she might soon give a press conference to explain her reasons for returning to the Soviet Union.

she aimed four-letter words at a US television team who tried to ask how she was faring in Moscow and she refused to answer any questions.

"You are savages, you are uncivilized people," she shouted . "I'm living in a society where private publicity is not done. I'm going to oby the rules, leave me alone.

"If there will be a place to talk with you it will be a special place provided, not on the street . . . you will be invited if it will be decided, and then we will talk," she said.

Mrs Peters and her American-born daughter Olga, 13, have been staying in the Government's Soviétskaya hotel since she returned.

More labour unrest feared

Employers condemn Pretoria's arrests of union leaders

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

In an unprecedented show of solidarity with black trade unions, South African industrialists and businessmen have publicly condemned the wave of arrests of trade unionists and others opposed to the Government's apartheid policy.

In a joint statement the country's three main business organizations, the Afrikaanse Handelsinstitut, the Federated Chamber of Industries and the Association of South African Chambers of Commerce, said they were deeply concerned by the detentions "at a sensitive time such as the present". Such action, they said, was bound to exacerbate labour unrest.

The statement was prompted by the arrests of 15 people in the past week, including the leaders of the two main black trade union federations, the 150,000-member Council of South African Unions and the 110,000-member Federation of South African Trade Unions.

The two trade union groups were the chief organizers of a two-day work stoppage last week in the Transvaal in support of black political and economic demands. The strike has alarmed the business community, which fears that, in the absence of effective black political rights, trade unions could increasingly become the channel for venting generalized anger at the apartheid system.

According to figures collated by the South African Institute of Race Relations, an independent, liberal research body, and the detainees' Parents' Support Committee, which was formed several years ago by the families of those held by the security police, 1,038 people have been detained so far this year under the security legislation.

They say the detentions are the "worst wave of repression since 1976, reminiscent of the post-Sharpville state of emergency". In 1976 there were uprisings in Soweto and elsewhere. In 1960 a state of emergency was declared, and many black organizations were banned, after 69 Africans demonstrating in Sharpville against apartheid laws were shot dead by the police.

It is estimated that there are about 220 people in security police detention, mainly students, trade unionists, teachers and anti-apartheid activists of one kind or another. They include most of the leadership of the United Democratic Front (UDF), a multiracial alliance of opposition groups.

Most of the detainees are held under either Section 29 or Section 28 of the Internal Security Act. The first permits indefinite detention for interrogation, and the second indefinite "preventive detention" of persons deemed to be an actual or potential threat to law and order. There is no legal appeal against such detention.

Crocker meeting clue to progress on Namibia

From Our Own Correspondent, Johannesburg

South Africa and the United States began talks in Pretoria yesterday which should give a clearer indication whether optimism about prospects for peace in the conflict over South African-occupied Namibia is justified.

The American delegation is led by Mr Chester Crocker, Assistant Secretary of State for African affairs, and the South African negotiators by Mr R. F. "Pik" Botha, the Foreign Minister, General Magnus Malan, Minister of Defence, and other officials.

On the eve of the talks, expected to end later today, Mr Botha said South Africa's response to recent peace proposals by Angola, including a phased withdrawal of Cuban troops stationed in that country, would be "conveyed and explained" to the Americans.

The new element is Luanda's willingness to make the withdrawal of the Cubans part of the Namibian independence process.

Pretoria is likely to raise objections to the proposed timing of the withdrawal. Angola says it will start to send the estimated 25,000 Cubans home only when South African forces in Namibia have been reduced to 1,500.

Step nearer link across Channel

From Diana Geddes
Paris

An important new step has been taken toward the realization of a cross-channel "fixed-link", whether tunnel or bridge, with the announcement yesterday that the French and British Governments have agreed to set up a joint working group to draw up guidelines by which they will assess potential projects.

The agreement was reached by Mr Nicholas Ridley, the British Minister of Transport, and M Paul Quiles, French Minister for Housing

The French are pleased by what they see as the first clear affirmation by the British Government that they wish to proceed with the project, while the British are pleased by an apparent shift in the former French position that some public money must be involved.

The joint communiqué states clearly that the project "should be financed without support from public funds or government financed guarantees, and on the basis of conditions prevailing on the international financial markets."

At the same time, the two ministers agreed that "essential political guarantees would be provided", indicating that private promoters would be compensated for any loss caused by actions by Governments, such as a unilateral withdrawal from the project by one side or the other.



Don Gaetane Badalamenti, the alleged chief of a Mafia heroin ring who has been imprisoned in Spain since April and will be extradited to the US over the next few days. Sources in Palermo, Sicily said Signor Badalamenti, whose Mafia family was badly hit in a clan war, would probably turn supergrass like the godfather Signor Tommasse Buscetta.

Yugoslav group to fight against political trials

Nineteen distinguished Yugoslav men of letters, art and science have set up a committee to defend freedom of thought and expression. It has pledged to take up all cases of people being tried for their beliefs (Our Foreign Staff writes).

The committee voices concern about ever-more frequent trials of people for their beliefs which, they said, were becoming an ideological and "legitimate method" of the authorities against all who do not hold identical opinions.

Formation of the committee was clearly in response to the trial of six dissidents on charges of trying to overthrow the Government. Yesterday the hearing was suspended here after one of the defence lawyers was physically ejected from the court on the orders of the judge.

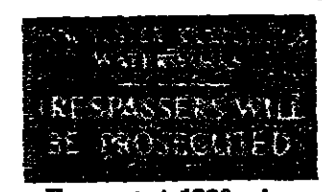
SPECTRUM

Funny man Mike Harding has a new role as president of the Ramblers' Association. Alan Franks heard how he will fight for walkers' rights in the countryside

Enter the comic crusader

For the Ramblers' Association to have made the northern comic Mike Harding its president, in succession to Lord Melchett, looks like a move from the sublime to the ridiculous; the swapping of a baron for a bawdy.

When the appointment was first mooted there were murmurs of dismay from the association's senior membership, which does have its share of tweeded venerables. There were visions of lavatory



Keep out: A 1930s sign

humour from the rostrum of the AGM, and fears that the RA would be open to charges of gimmickry. A closer look at Harding's preoccupations might *not* have allayed the worries, for his songs and his patter show few signs of love for the politician, a breed with whom the association, like any other pressure group, is compelled to trade.

Only a still closer look would have brought reassurance; the ramblers now have for their figurehead a committed long-distance walker, and a dalesman with a deep knowledge of the politics of the countryside. If he is something of a radical and an anti-authoritarian, there is an honourable tradition of such things in the Englishman's battles for pedestrian access.

The period of Harding's tenure of the presidency, which runs until mid-1987, is likely to see two misconceptions disappear; first, that walkers are, to use his own words, "a bunch of knock-kneed old men and women who don great big boots and ex-Army rucksacks for a Sunday afternoon stroll"; and second, that he is simply a stage northerner hired to do a David Bellamy job on the fells.

"As a media person – sorry about that phrase, but it's true – I know I can help increase the membership", he says. "I can also help to present the image of rambling in its proper light. I don't think it should matter what sort of person you are in professional terms, but rather what you think about the issues involved."

His thoughts about the issues are unequivocal: "Forty tons of the Peak District leaves it every ten minutes, thanks to the limestone quarrying. In Ribblesdale there are four quarries spread over an area of six miles. The effect is quite unbelievable.

"Take the *quarry* at Horton in Ribblesdale. This takes the purest possible limestone and, instead of using it for the chemicals industry, it distributes it for use as ordinary road ballast. It's all down to purely economic priorities, because it's cheaper just to blast the stuff off the face of the hills. All right, I know that the quarry provides local jobs – something like 80 people plus all the ancillary labour – and I'm the last person to want to take work away from anyone. But look at it this way: if someone said: 'There's all this magnesium dioxide in the stones of Balmoral Castle and we could really use it for rocket nose-cones,' there would be an outcry. And quite rightly. So why do we let a company come in and blow away bits of what is just as much a national monument?"

As a performer, Harding, now 40, has emerged from the same folk music school that produced Jake Thackray, Billy Connolly and Jasper Carrott. As with the last two, the songs gradually lost their primacy in the programme, and the chat linking the numbers grew into the *raison d'être* of the routine. Tempting therefore to assume that he is about to use part of his act for proselytizing purposes.

"No, that's not quite true. I'd far rather make people laugh than cry. OK, when I do my national tour next year, between February and May, I'll put in a plug for the association. And, yes, I intend to write a song for an old friend of mine, Tony Hardman, a great rambler, who was killed on Lochnagar."

On the evidence then, the choice of Harding for president is not so much eccentric as inspired, and consistent with the populist approach of the RA's young secretary, Alan Mattingly. After all, Lord Melchett, Eton and Cambridge notwithstanding, was chairman of the working party on pop festivals in 1975.

Already, Harding says, his approach to conservation has lost him a few friends in the local near his cottage at the foot of Pennyghent. "Ah, but you have to remember they're quarrymen. They've got their jobs to think of, and I understand that. It's a valid point.

"There *is* this conflict between those who live and work in the National Parks, and the nation's claim on its open spaces. Take the Dales again. Until 20 or 30 years ago, all the quarrying was done on a human scale. Just three or four blokes. And if you look now at those places, they could *almost* be natural features in the landscape. But now there's been a fantastic raising of the pace... it seems to me that the National Parks committees are powerless in everything except deciding on, I don't know, the shape of new windows in private houses."





Mike Harding, left, hits the trail. Pictured, top right, is the mass trespass of Kinder Scout, Derbyshire, in April 1932, when 400 hikers protested about lack of access to the then private grouse moor. Bottom right the reward notice which subsequently appeared in the *Manchester Evening Chronicle*. Fifty years later, one of the original organizers, Mr Bernard Rothman, now aged 72, led a re-enactment, pictured top. Today, Kinder forms the southern end of the 250-mile Pennine Way, opened in April 1965. The Ramblers' Association, formed in 1935 with 1,200 members, is now 43,000-strong.

Harding's own remit as president does not run to drawing up a ramblers' manifesto. But if it did, one could be certain that it would hinge on an increase in government subsidies for rural conservation, and a coordinated national plan for the parks. He is well aware that walking now stands in the first division of leisure pursuits, a fact underlined by the rise this autumn of a book by the Cumbrian mountaineer Alfred Wainwright to the top of the best-seller list.

About three and a half months of Harding's year are spent on the road "to pay the rent." The rest of the time is split between writing books, broadcasting, and rambling.



Come in: The 1980s way

This year he has spent about 40 nights out, all the while amassing, whether he intends to or not, material for his next series of shows. Round his waist as he trudges is a camera, for he is also a keen photographer.

And joker. On Dundee: "The town that invented the coffin." On Birmingham: "Looks as though it was designed by a Lego salesman." On Egremont on the North-east coast: "Where the tide hopes it doesn't have to come in."

It is hard to see him suppressing this brand of humour during the next three years as he addresses himself to the problems of the countryside. What the RA has is a one-off hybrid descended from the music hall clown and the dogged commoners who trespassed on the Kinder Scout grouse moors half a century ago and so gave birth to the Pennine Way.

Mike Harding's comic miscellany, When The Martians Land in Huddersfield, *was published yesterday by Robson Books (£5.95).*

moreover... **Miles Kington**

Now for the other side of the coin

What do you think of the decision to withdraw the English pound note? Here are some of the interesting letters I have received on the subject.

From the Bishop of Milton Keynes

Sir, The church has never been slow to welcome change, if that change be good and positive. What we have to ask ourselves here, I think, is whether the pound coin is a force for good in society today, or merely another way of rendering unto Caesar those things which perhaps belong to God.

You know, I often think that life is a bit like a pound note; it may be worn out but God will always pay the bearer in the end. What I am trying to say, I think, is that I have absolutely no opinion about the new pound coin, but I felt I ought to write a letter on the subject anyway.
Yours till eternity.

From Col James Witherspoon

Sir, I am not surprised that they have decided to phase out the pound note. It was a nasty, tawdry little innovation to begin with, as I said at the time. And I am very glad we are getting back to the good old *sovereign at last. You may* be interested to know that I have never once used a pound note in all those years but have always preferred to let my bills mount up instead.

If my creditors care to get in touch with me again, I shall be happy to settle up in the new coinage. To prevent congestion, I will deal with accounts up to and including 1925 to begin with.
Yours sincerely.

From the President of the Royal College of Dieticians

Sir, It is not often realized that the old pound note had some nutritional value, containing traces of calcium, iron and vitamin C. It was also, of course, rich in roughage, as anyone who has ever eaten a pound note will testify.

But the new pound coin contains nothing of use to the human body whatsoever. I am not suggesting that the eating of pound notes was ever common, or that it has been encouraged by this college, merely pointing out that somebody stranded without proper food on, say, a desert island or a motorway service area, could always survive on the *contents* of his wallet. This, I fear, will no longer be true.
Your faithfully.

From Mr Donald W Quickshot

Sir, I thought you might be interested to know that the new pound coin is exactly the same size, shape and weight as the telephone tokens used in Malaysia to make phone calls. This means that if you wish to phone from Malaysia and have no tokens, you can always use a pound coin!

You may object to this that it would make the phone call much more expensive and is thus a pointless idea. I would agree with you. However, the reverse is also true and Malaysian telephone tokens can be used in England in all slot machines normally taking a pound coin!

You may object to this that there are no slot machines in England that take a pound coin, and it is thus pointless to collect Malaysian tokens. I would agree with this. But these are early days yet.
Yours and everything.

From Professor Rodney Bingo

Sir, We are always being told by the Tories that increased efficiency leads to lower costs which in turn lead to lower prices for the consumer. Now Mr Nigel Lawson tells us that this new quid piece is cheaper to make and lasts longer. Why then has he not passed on the benefit to the consumer by charging less for his new coins?

I estimate they should be on sale for no more than about 60 or 65p. Until the price of the new coin goes down, I can only assume that Tory thinking is a sham.
Yours etcetera.

From Mr Arthur Koestler

Sir, Yes, it's really me, Arthur Koestler! Yes, I'm calling you from the other side to say that there really is a lot going on up here! They have everything here – books, decent coffee, relaxed licensing laws, everything! And guess what they use for money? Do you give up? Well, it's not paper and its not metal it's pip pip pip pip damn, my money has run out I'll call you again soon.
Bye.

Tomorrow

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17 History records (6)
19 Call to court (8)
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24 Persons (6)
25 Exaggerate (6)
26 Raised edge (3)
27 Tempestuous (6)
28 Over there (6)

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2 Sesame sweetmeat (5)
3 Evasion (7)
4 Defamation (7)
5 Local rule (5)
6 Premier (5)
7 Recommencement (7)
13 Religious (3)
15 Vastly rich (7)
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مكذا من الأصل

Mossmorran

How Esso intend completing the picture

The new Esso-Shell gas liquids fractionation plant at Mossmorran in Fife is open for business. It took over £500 million and 5 years of ingenuity and skill to build.

Mossmorran is only one part of a £1,700 million development programme which started 13 years ago with the discovery of the Brent oil and gas field.

Natural gas and its associated liquids are carried 278 miles by undersea pipeline from Brent and other fields in the North Sea to St. Fergus in Scotland.

There the natural gas is separated from the liquids, piped into the national gas grid, and is now supplying 10% of Britain's gas for industry and the home.

The natural gas liquids then travel a further 138 miles by underground pipeline to Mossmorran. Here they are separated into their commercial components: propane, butane, natural gasoline and ethane.

Esso are now completing the picture by building a £400 million ethane cracker, linked to the Mossmorran complex. This cracker will be the most technologically advanced in Europe, and will produce ethylene, the basic raw material for plastics.

This investment in all our futures is just one demonstration of Esso's continuing confidence and commitment to Britain.

But the work doesn't finish here. Esso are currently spending at the rate of £2,000 per minute, over 85% of it going to British firms.

Between now and 1990 we expect to invest another £4,500,000,000 to meet Britain's energy needs—a massive commitment which offers opportunities for the development of new technologies, the building of new industries, and the creation of new jobs.

Esso look forward with confidence to providing supplies of oil and gas for Britain well into the 21st century.



FRIDAY PAGE

From Brünnhilde to modern Marlene

EUROPEAN WOMEN Part 3

In our final report on women's equality in Europe, Michael Binyon reveals how German women are dissatisfied with the progress they have made and why they fear a backlash

There is a paradox in West Germany. The chic, rich, independent women of the Federal Republic, a country that lays official emphasis on equal opportunity, social justice and democratic rights, would appear to be among the least affected by traditions of male dominance, *but it is just not so.* German women would seem to share with those in Scandinavia and other northern cultures an influence and position notably more pronounced than in Latin cultures. But in reality the fight for equal rights is fiercer in West Germany than in most European countries precisely because women still perceive a big gap between expectation and achievement.

On the surface it looks as if much has been achieved in the past 10 years. The Social Democratic Government systematically encouraged the advancement of women in all areas, and legislation laid down a framework for equality. A high proportion of women now have jobs and traditional male occupations have opened their doors to women.

There are women priests, women company directors, pilots and ministers. The Foreign Ministry has just appointed its fourth woman as ambassador to Tanzania. Cities such as Hamburg and Cologne have set up permanent offices to ensure equal opportunities for women and roughly a quarter of all new businesses are set up by women. All political parties have paid increasing attention to women's rights, the Bundestag has debated the issue and the Green Party is now headed entirely by women.

Yet it is still difficult in Germany to name more than a dozen women who are leaders in their profession. There are few women journalists and broadcasters and even fewer senior civil servants. Women make up barely 10 per cent of the Bundestag. Apart from 70 medical assistants, there are no women in the German Armed Forces. The top jobs in banking and commerce are overwhelmingly held by men. And women musicians, as Sabine Meyer found at the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, often have a hard task entering the male-dominated world of music and the arts.

Feminist groups are also alarmed by what they see as a comprehensive threat to many of the gains of the 1970s. They look with concern at the new emphasis on motherhood – an emphasis the Christian Democrats found struck a warm chord among many voters last year, and one which chimes in well with worries about the low German birthrate and the general public hostility to children. They detect an attempt by society to get women back into the home, and even a trace of the old three Ks ideal – *Kinder, Küche, Kirche* (children, kitchen, church).

They point to recent legislation by the centre-right Government which they claim has been to the disadvantage of women:

Reform of the divorce law, once again raising the possibility of court action to determine the "guilt" of one or other party.

Cut in student grants, which opponents say will inevitably fall harder on women, who will face greater pressures against going to college than male students and who will find it harder to repay state loans.

Renewed attempts to tighten up the abortion law and the recent attack by the Ministry of Youth and Family Affairs on a leading birth control advisory organization; the controversial cut in post-natal allowances for women and the tight economic policies which have squeezed the number of industrial training places.

All this, women's groups argue, is symptomatic of a new conservatism that is still unwilling to make equal opportunity an economic reality. They point to a statement, well-publicized and widely supported, by Herr Manfred Rommel, the popular Mayor of Stuttgart, who said that in awarding jobs, preference should be given to heads of families rather than to women whose husbands were already employed.

The government denies that any of its policies have reduced women's opportunities. The Ministry of Youth and Family Affairs has a section to coordinate legislation affecting women's interests, enforce existing laws on equality and encourage further moves. It has a yearly budget of DM 3,800,000 (slightly more than £1m) for research, seminars, conferences and pilot projects, and has been active in such things as setting up model shelters for battered wives, promoting research on the effects of divorce on families and trying to improve the lot of housewives.

Frau Ellen Wolf, head of the section and a vice-president of the Advisory Committee on Equality in Brussels, said that in terms of pay and the position of women, Germany statistically was approximately middle of the European Community table. But the Bonn government did *not think a policy of affirmative* action, as practised in the United States, would be appropriate to achieve advances.

She favoured instead voluntary efforts, and pointed to the role played not only by the radical lobby groups but by the more established women's organizations such as the German Women's Council, set up in 1951. This umbrella organization for dozens of political and *religious women's groups*, with a total combined membership of more than six million, wields powerful influence behind the scenes on the established political parties, trade unions and employers.

Frau Wolf acknowledged a chance of emphasis in the present government's social policies, but added: "We have no intention of sending women back into the home, what we want to do is improve the opportunities for those women who do stay at home".

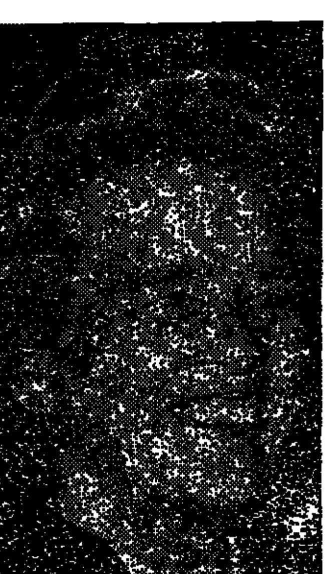
There are clear and sometimes bitter differences in attitude here between generations. The Greens, who are mainly supported by the young, have adopted unashamedly feminist policies and have been vocal in denouncing discrimination and sexual harassment at the workplace, male chauvinism in politics – including the Bundestag – and remaining legal obstacles to full equality.

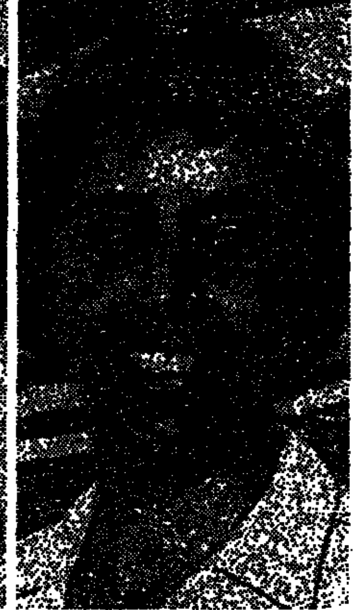
One of the women behind the party is Petra Kelly, who as a former leader of the Greens in the Bundestag made it a force to be reckoned with in West German politics.

Ironically, it is in business that women have made the most substantial gains recently. The number of company presidents has quadrupled since the mid 1970s, and there are now more than 100,000 women who control firms with a yearly turnover of more than DM1m.

They have spread out beyond the female ghettos of boutiques, hairdressers and cosmetics to car parts, steelworks, rolling mills, shipbuilding and haulage firms. Their financial acumen has been tellingly demonstrated by the 1982 statisitics on bankruptcy; of the record number of more than 1,500 firms that went out of business, *not a single one was headed by a* woman.

The women who control Germany's big companies are much in the limelight: Frau Grete Schickedanz of the giant *mail order firm Quelle, and of* course Frau Beate Uhse who runs a firm that perhaps more than any other is a symbol of the male world – the Beate Uhse Sex Shops.






Breaking down barriers: From left, businesswoman Grete Schickedanz, trade union leader Monika Wulf-Mathies, sex empire owner Beate Uhse, musician Sabine Meyer and politician Petra Kelly

This success, however, is not quite the tribute to emancipation it might seem, for most of the companies headed by women were founded and built up by men. In two-thirds of all cases the women did not plan a business career, but inherited the concern from fathers or husbands.

One reason for women branching out on their own is their lack of success in reaching the top of companies run by men. Only 2 per cent of all top positions in German business are held by women.

Those who have made it against the odds are noticeably reluctant to draw any conclusion about the role their sex played in this. They are what can be called the "Thatcher" women who have competed and won in *male-dominated* fields, and who do do not like to be asked how this was possible as women.

A good example is one of Germany's toughest women in a tough field: Frau Monika Wulf-Mathies, head of the Transport and Public Service Union, the second largest trade union in West Germany. She has just been overwhelmingly re-elected, and has promised a militant campaign to try to win a shorter working week for her members. She is the first woman union *leader and the first representa*tive of a college educated younger generation – she is 42 – to reach such a senior position in the trade union movement.

The women's movement in Germany *is split* between those who want equality of opportunity within the present framework and those who insist the framework itself is wrong and must be changed.

Escaping from the old polished parlour image

PATRICIA CLOUGH, who lived in West Germany for eight years, writes: Behind the net curtains and potted plants in millions of German windows reigns a neatness and ultra-spotlessness which *seems to give the inhabitants a feeling of* safety and of being in control. It is usually the lady of the house, still, who takes a pride in keeping it that way. Families are still made to wear bedroom slippers in the house.

In many homes, standards have relaxed somewhat with the more permissive atmosphere of the past two decades, especially where jobs compete for a woman's time and changes her priorities. But the old instinct is often not far from the surface: a young left-wing feminist can be as aggressively houseproud about her chic, off-beat pad as her grandmother was about her stuffy parlour.

It seems unfair that German women should have had to wait so long for any semblance of real equality since it was they, more than anyone, who kept the nation going throughout the terrible destruction and deprivation of the war and the post-war years. They worked, queued, improvised, foraged, even stole to feed *their families with their husbands* away at the front or in internment. Hundreds of thousands, widowed, had to build a new life alone.

It was the war years which stamped a long-lasting image on German women: one of plain, "sensible" shoes and mackintoshes, clothes chosen for their image closer to Brünnhilde than Marlene.

With affluence came travel, wider education and the desire to be fashionable. Sensible cotton undies are giving way among younger women to seductive silk and lace, sporty skirts and jumpers to chic designer clothes. West Germany, after the United States, is now one of the biggest markets for international fashion.

***Healthy eating – not simply a new fad in* West Germany – and a fondness for exercise and sport has produced any amount of beautiful slim figures on which to hang these clothes. The Marlene side of German womenhood is taking over.**

MEDICAL BRIEFING

The screen of fear

Any link between birth defects and an environmental hazard is bound to strike fear into the hearts of pregnant women or *those wishing to conceive. The* latest scare comes from reports of women who worked on visual display units (VDUs) during pregnancy and went on to deliver handicapped babies or suffer miscarriages.

Unravelling the evidence and putting it into perspective is difficult: so little work has been done either to substantiate or refute the claims, that any conclusions are based on *opinion* and are, as a result, controversial.

Reports of clusters of babies born with handicaps and unusually high rates of miscarriages come mainly from the United States and Canada.

A study of pregnancies among female staff at the Department of Employment in Runcorn, Cheshire, is causing concern. There are some reservations and criticisms of the statistical basis of the study but the indications, so far are that 36 per cent of the pregnancies of women working on VDUs did not have a normal outcome, compared with 16 per cent of those who were not using the *equipment.* There were 55 pregnancies in the VDU group: 14.5 per cent ended with a miscarriage, 6.7 per cent in still birth and 22 per cent in some kind of malformation. For the other women there were 5.3 per *cent miscarriages, fewer than* 1 per cent still births and 11 per cent malformations.

In small groups of women miscarriage rates of more than 50 per cent have been found. The expected miscarriage rate *in the general population* is between 15 and 20 per cent.

As Dr Colin Mackay, of the Health and Safety Executive, explains, in small groups of women it may appear to be as low as 5 per cent or as high as 40 per cent without any external factors being responsible. Reports of high rates of spontaneous abortions in a small group of women may be put down to chance and are just distributions around the average.

Nevertheless, further investigation needs to be done on whether working on a VDU is particularly stressful during pregnancy. Sitting down at a desk should be less demanding than, say, working in a factory where the job requires lifting and carrying.



VDU operator at work . . . and also at risk?

However, staring at a small screen can cause strain. Tony Webb, of the London Hazards Centre, says many people work on a VDU for six to eight hours without a break. Complaints received at the centre suggest that as many as 90 per cent of regular VDU users suffer from burning eyes, headaches, neck ache and back ache and their symptoms become dramatically worse after a four-hour stint.

"If there is stress", says Mr Webb, "it is likely to increase the number of miscarriages. In Canada and Sweden there are recommendations which limit work on a VDU to one hour at a time, plus a 15-minute break, up to a maximum of four hours a day."

But the main area of concern is the possibility that the screens are emitting X-rays or low-frequency radiation which might damage unborn babies. According to Dr Mackay, we are all exposed to some background X-rays, whatever we do. If a pregnant woman were exposed to the maximum level of rays internationally recommended to be acceptable for the whole period of her pregnancy it would add only a quarter to the background level.

"VDUs, it must be remembered, do not emit anywhere near that maximum", Dr Mackay stresses. "Similarly, the levels of other radiation from VDUs are very much lower *than the current standards.*"

Mr Webb takes a different line. "There is no safe level of radiation. In addition, there is no conclusive evidence that these low levels do not cause damage", he says.

"Both X-rays and other radiation can be reduced by protecting the source with a metal cage and changing the type of screen from the normal tube to the newer liquid crystal *displays or plasma screens.*"

Mr Webb says pregnant women and their employers should ask whether they really need to use a VDU or whether they can just as easily work from a print-out or an alternative.

"Any woman who has outstanding doubts should have the right to transfer to other work", he says.

But a cautionary note has *been sounded by Richard* Beard, professor of obstretrics and gynaecology at St Mary's Hospital, London.

He said: "Very little is known except that no harmful radiation comes from the machines. *If there are problems they may* be due to stress. Any woman who is worried about malformations would be subject to a detailed ultrasound scan."

However, he suggested a detailed prospective study into *the use of VDUs.*

Pain barrier



The Secretary of State for Social Services, Mr Norman Fowler, has announced plans to limit the number of drugs available on NHS prescription. So far the proposals affect only medicines for "minor and self-limiting ailments" – cough and cold remedies, antacids, laxatives and mild pain-killers.

There are also plans to restrict the numbers of benzodiazepine sedatives and tranquillizers available. Instead of the full range of these drugs only a few basic medicines will now be available on NHS prescription. The proposals could mean that some drugs such as Benylin for coughs, Distalgesic for pain and Ativan for anxiety will no longer be on the NHS – *not even generic* versions.

Anyone still wanting them would be able to buy them over the counter or on private prescription. Many of the drugs affected can be bought at the chemist's, and many cost less than the prescription charge.

However, up to 80 per cent of NHS prescriptions are for patients exempt from charges who would not have paid anything if their doctor had prescribed these products.

But drugs available only on prescription such as Mogadon sleeping tablets and Valium tranquillizers will be available *in a cheaper generic form and in* any case a month's supply for those wishing to stay with the brand name costs less than £2. But a month's supply of Ativan will cost nearly £3, Dormonoct around £4.50 and Librium *around £2.40.*

Hidden dangers down on the farm

What is going to happen to Joe Grundy? The untimely death of Haydn Jones who played the irascible but strangely lovable character in *The Archers* for nearly a decade, leaves the producers in a dilemma. Do they try to find a replacement actor or do they bring his life to an end as well? Joe Grundy had complained that he suffered from farmer's lung

The disease is caused by the spores of the fungus *aspergillus* lodging themselves in the lung. The conditions are ideal for the fungus – moist, dark and damp – and if not controlled the growth can eventually obstruct the lung and lead to chronic health problems. The fungus comes from rotting crops and poor quality grain which is stored when wet.

The disease is easily treated if diagnosed promptly although it can be debilitating and shortness of breath may persist. Deaths from the disease are not unknown: in 1983, for example, 14 were recorded. Most sufferers have their first attacks in their fifties The disease may take 20 years to develop.

If the producers are looking for a dramatic end for Joe they could *opt for Weil's Disease,* from which farmers are also at risk. This is caused by a highly dangerous bacteria transmitted by rats, which are not unknown at Grange Farm. A person infected will suffer severe flu-like symptoms and life-threatening jaundice if not treated immediately.

Olivia Timbs and Lorraine Fraser



THE ARTS

Cinema

Tony Richardson's formidable feat of juggling

Hotel New Hampshire (18)
Gate Bloomsbury: Cinecenta Panton Street

Maria's Lovers (18)
Classic Haymarket (Nov 23)

Success is the Best Revenge (15)
Everyman (Nov 23)

L'Amour par terre (15)
Classics Chelsea, Hampstead

Hotel New Hampshire was a 1981 best-seller by John Irving, the author of *The World According to Garp* and an exponent of a peculiarly American and contemporary school of fiction whose other notables include Joseph Heller, Kurt Vonnegut and E. L. Doctorow. The characteristics of the type are canvases of epic scale and historical scope, a picaresque approach both to time and space, kaleidoscopic variety of incident, multitudinous characters, free shifts from absurdist farce to sombre tragedy. It is the kind of big novel which offers entertainment, while purporting deeper philosophic purposes, metaphorical reflections upon the Human Condition, Life, Love, Dreams, Passion, Aspiration – 400 pages of Higher Wisdom to pass away a transatlantic plane journey painlessly.

The style might not appear particularly suited to the screen; but Tony Richardson, returning to major feature film production seven years after the unfortunate *Joseph Andrews*, has written and directed a version which succeeds remarkably in reproducing the content and manner of *Hotel New Hampshire*.

The central theme is the importance of staying true to your dreams whatever the obstacles and whatever the price a tough world may exact; the running motto is "Keep passing the open windows", which is to say do not (as characters in the book tend to do) throw yourself out of them.

Beau Bridges plays the proprietor of several successive and ill-fated hotels in various locales including Arbuthnot, USA, and Vienna, Austria. His elder son (Paul McCrane) is homosexual, his younger (Rob Lowe) an Adonis who brings sexual fulfilment to a succession of women but longs only for physical union with his older sister (a much matured Jodie Foster), who tends to be a rape victim. Their younger sister (Jennie Dundas) is a dwarf who becomes a Great American Novelist with a book called *Trying to Grow*.



Susie the Bear: Nastassia Kinski with Jodie Foster in *Hotel New Hampshire*

Around these central figures revolves a large cast of eccentrics, including delinquents, terrorists and Nastassia Kinski as a girl who masquerades as a bear from fear of facing the world. There are three rapes in assorted variety, three deaths in the family, two blindings, a great deal of regular coupling, a marathon bout of incest and a lot of laughs.

It is, like the original novel, a matter of taking it or leaving it. Tony Richardson, with a skilful and skilfully selected cast, manages a formidable juggling feat in sustaining the multiplicity of characters and incidents. He still retains, though, his old capacity to surprise with sudden banalities: his use of speeded up action recalls the worst of British in the Swinging Sixties; and the round-the-clock sex marathon of brother and sister looks like a German soft-core porn movie. Such failings though were always concomitant with the ambition and nerve which made Richardson one of the most valuable British figures of his generation.

Andrei Konchalovsky is the first Soviet director ever to make a feature film in Hollywood. His career at home has shown a dramatic shift from his first films, *The First Teacher* and *Asya's Happiness* – truthful and sensitive human dramas – to the dreadful *Siberiade* of 1978, a windy patriotic epic, the Soviet answer to *1900*. **Maria's Lovers** attempts rather uncomfortably to mix the intimate and the epic, and emerges a lot of the time simply as novelette.

It begins auspiciously, with an extract from John Huston's 1944 documentary about soldiers pycholog·ally damaged by wartime experiences, *Let There Be Light*. At the end of a series of authentic, agonising interviews we are introduced to the fictional hero Ivan Babic (John Savage). Ivan returns to Pennsylvania and his home in a Yugoslav emigré community, and marries Maria (Nastassia Kinski), the childhood sweetheart whose image has sustained him through his prisoner-of-war experiences.

Ivan however finds himself incapable of sex with his new wife, even though he is successful enough with the local floozie. Maria is loving and patient; but Ivan's frustrations drive him to breakng-point. He walks out on Maria, who thereupon loses her virginity to an itinerant guitar-player and seducer. By this time the grandiose ambitions of the early scenes have definitely dwindled to novelette as Ivan rediscovers his manhood, floors the seducer and consummates the union with a triumphant cry of "I'm home!".

The essential paucity of the material is somewhat redeemed by the adept playing of John Savage and the ubiquitous Kinski, only occasionally driven over the top by their director, and Robert Mitchum's stoical performance as Ivan's father. Directors seem to carry their own worlds with them: the most remarkable achievement of *Maria's Lovers* is to make Pennysylvania look like the Ukraine – a similarity emphasized by colour whose predominant blue and brown tones recall old Sovcolour films of the Forties.

Another director abroad, Jerzy Skolimowski follows *Moonlighting* with a comparable lively, swiftly-made, supremely up-to-the-minute sketch film, **Success is the Best Revenge**. The leading character, played by Michael York, is very evidently a self-portrait of the director. Skolimowski's real-life wife and sons (under the names Joanna Szczerbic, Michael Lyndon and George Skolimowski) play the family of the film's hero, an internationally fêted but financially embarrassed theatre director.

While having problems with his bank, his car, his backers, his apartment and almost anyone he encounters in the street, he has to wrestle with his relationship with his troubled homeland, and to decide whether to go through with an avant-garde political theatre show which will once and for all alienate him from Poland as a dissident. His own problems leave him no time to comprehend the dilemmas – no less Polish – of his 16-year-old son, who ends up returning to Poland at the moment his father cuts himself adrift.

The film has all the merits and the shortcomings of being made with speed and enthusiasm. No doubt because of hasty preparation, the script lacks form, misses points and fails to establish real relationships between characters. To set against this are brilliant little set-pieces, like the father and son quarrelling on the football field; enjoyable bits of characteristic quirky comedy, like Jane Asher's bank manager with hot water bottle or the seduction of a local council planner; a vivid contemporaneity in the references. Skolimowski's sheer vitality convinces you that it is carefree rather than careless.

I must admit a totally blind spot in the matter of Jacques Rivette, at least since *Celine et Julie*. While some of my best friends delight in his charm, wit, Gallic style and enchanting feminine portraits, to me the films seem only precious, silly and vaguely satyric in their feeling for young girls. I can but record impartially that **L'Amour par terre** (seen at Venice and included in the London Festival) relates how two impecunious English actresses in Paris (jolly performances by Geraldine Chaplin and Jane Birkin) accept the hospitality of a rich and eccentric playwright. In his château they encounter various bizarre and mysterious characters and occult experiences. The pictures are pretty, the dialogue is arch and the best comic scenes go to Laszlo Szabo as the playwright's solemn butler and literary ghost.

David Robinson

Opera

A long lost chord

Johnny Strikes Up
Sadler's Wells

The Times has declared that Krenek's opera *Jonny spielt auf* is "the sheerest trash", and who am I to argue? I cannot even get that worked up about Opera North's prduction (in collaboration with the New Opera Company) which it brought to London for the first of three performances on Wednesday. The opera is just harmless, mindless and characterless, and moreover it resists all attempts by Anthony Besch's production to give it a touch of parodistic life.

Why on earth was it such a success in the Weimar Republic? It cannot simply have been its use of up-to-the-minute idioms – that was scarcely news in 1927 – nor its vilification by the Nazis which enabled it to sweep Europe. The composer was surely nearer the mark when he said that "Johnny and his America stood for the fullness of life, optimistic affirmation, freedom from futile speculation, and devotion to the happiness of the moment". Yes indeed, and anything less likely to go down well in a second-term Reagan world it is difficult to imagine, as the last scene's quasi-Republican Convention suggests.

So it is only as a period piece of a particularly superficial kind that *Jonny* has any hope of success, and that is not how Opera North treat it. Jonathan Sprague's lively Johnny, and Gillian Sullivan's neat Yvonne, camp up their jazz duet; Lyndon Terracini's violinist Daniello has escaped from Miller's *Rigoletto;* Penelope MacKay's well sung Anita – who is meant to be the focus of passion and love in the piece – flounces around the stage posturing wildly. Only Kenneth Woollam's Max, the serious composer who stands uncomprehending at the centre of this whirling nonsense, makes any attempt at dignity, and he ends up looking just like Janáček on a bad day.

The chic, hard-edged decor, all white furniture and Bauhaus projections, cleverly designed by John Stoddart, has an additional alienating effect. Orchestra and singers try desperately hard to be amused by it all but David Lloyd-Jones seems uneasy with both halves of the schizophrenic score. Once, obviously, it all struck a chord. Now it does not: it is as simple as that. Try again in 2027?

Nicholas Kenyon

Concert

Self-conscious show

ECO/Saraste
Barbican

It is stating the obvious to say that child prodigies run the risk of being regarded rather like circus animals. But the fact remains true, and the temptation for the younger performer to play accordingly must be immense. Alas, Dimitris Sgouros, now aged all of 15, seemed to err heavily on the side of exhibitionism at the expense of real artistry in his reading of Chopin's First Piano Concerto.

Of course, his ability to play the notes continues to amaze, as does his enormous – and growing – strength and stamina. But the stilted, rehearsed quality of this interpretation was disquieting. Self-conscious and exaggerated rubatos and a cloying, often over-loud cantabile conspired with tempos that were just too spectacular in the faster music and an obviously awkward sense of poetry elsewhere. Whatever the failings of this work, it should never sound superficial, as it did here.

Under the Finnish conductor Jukka-Pekka Saraste, making a return visit to this country after his dramatic British début at this year's Proms, when he replaced Yuri Simonov at short notice, the English Chamber Orchestra accompanied efficiently, with the horns making some especially voluptuous sounds. In Dvořák's Serenade for Strings, Saraste engineered an affable performance of what is an affable work, though it would be more so were its two movements shorter

Haydn's "Oxford" Symphony is by contrast concise and nothing if not eventful. The ECO were not always in their most sparkling form here; there was one near-disaster in ensemble in the finale. But, even though Saraste ignored some of the finer details of articulation, he still managed to achieve something like the right spirit. The slow introduction sounded a trifle sweet, but the rest of the first movement was played with a real spring in its heels, and momentum was no less artfully sustained in the wonderfully rich and dramatic Adagio.

Stephen Pettitt

Television

The problem of paternalism

The sight of a person crying on television is always disturbing; more so than the experience of someone crying in real life. The sequence of a man weeping was unusually upsetting in last night's documentary in BBC2's Forty Minutes series, entitled *The Grendon Experiment*. This portrayed the work of Grendon Prison in Buckinghamshire, Britain's only psychiatric prison. The crying man had been reduced to tears in a psycho-drama session with a number of other inmates and a group leader who was subsequently seen ebulliently recounting the episode to the prison's principal psychiatrist.

As a prisoner is a person who has already been deliberately shorn of a considerable measure of human dignity, it seemed a cruel enhancement of this deprivation for several million people to view his distress on television from the comfort of their sitting-rooms.

The Grendon Experiment was in many respects an emotional piece of work. The nature of the "experiment" – its terms of reference, methods and duration – was never made clear. The establishment was described as different from Rampton and Broadmoor, but the difference was not fully explained.

The difference appeared to be that Grendon was a relatively low security prison, with a relatively high ratio of staff to prisoners and a regime considerably more humane than the presently widespread confinement of prisoners in small, overcrowded cells for 23 hours out of each day. None of these factors was specifically quantified.

The documentary as a whole had a naive, almost star-struck dimension which was particularly evident in a sequence in which the governor visited the prison canteen to taste the inmates' food. This was a demonstration of caring paternalism which could have been lifted from a 1950s rah-rah Pathé newsreel.

The governor, Michael Selby, took part in the highly effective opening sequence. In this a number of prisoners introduced themselves fluently in the style of a weekend encounter group. "I'm John, I'm serving eight years for armed robberies and drug importation." "I'm Michael Selby. I'm the newly-appointed governor." There was a suspicion throughout the documentary that the governor's view of Grendon had prevailed upon, or at least coloured, the programme's approach.

Celia Brayfield

Theatre

The Ancient Mariner
Olivier

One London landmark that I miss is the South Bank's huge fresco of desolate ships, perky little castaways, and seas teeming with unclassifiable monsters, all run up by children who had seen Michael Bogdanov's 1979 Young Vic production of *The Ancient Mariner*.

By rights, that matchless piece of display publicity should have launched the show into the National Theatre. But, even though Bogdanov has had to wait five years for his transfer, the memory of that juvenile artwork lingers on, renewing your trust in a production that can stimulate such a response.

The third of Bogdanov's adaptations (after *Gawain and the Green Knight* and *Hiawatha)*, the production releases a great work to junior spectators without diluting it into a junior version. As before, the method consists of delivering the text through a character narrator, and amplifying it with dance, pantomime and the full resources of scenic technology. The experience in this case is like reading Coleridge by flashes of lightning.

Always happiest on the grand scale, Bogdanov has expanded his original little wedding party into a full company of rustic musicians and Morris Men, vigorously jollying up the foyer crowd before leading the bride down the central aisle for stick dance revels on stage, while Michael Bryant's spectral Mariner stalks through the merry-makers until he has marked down his man.

Michael Bryant's spectral Mariner

"There was a ship", he anounces in a voice of thunder; at which the maypole bunting and banners of the wedding feast flutter into oblivion, revealing the rigging and capstan of the doomed vessel, and pipes and fiddles give way to work shanties. An outsider among the wedding guests, Bryant remains an outsider among his long-lost shipmates, silently mouthing their songs, and preserving a steady gait as they are thrown about the deck.

Unlike Bogdanov's previous texts, *The Ancient Mariner* is not simply a narrative poem. Much of its action is internal, and its events are saturated in dream symbolism. Any stage version unavoidably becomes an act of interpretation; and that is where this version runs into trouble.

Bogdanov's gift for festive decoration and non-analytic narrative leaves him at a loss in those passages of dead time which make up so much of the poem's horror. Come the doldrums, and it is another desperate round of sea-shanties. As for the albatross, its slaughter is a cue for the Mariner's young alter ego (Frederick Warder) to arrive on deck, along with the Wedding Guest and the bride, who performs a sepulchral dance beside the dying bird. You are thus left to draw the crazy conclusion that her marriage amounts to some form of ritual killing.

As a stage picture, the moment is extremly beautiful: a perfectly marked cadence, leaving the young mariner to polish his cross-bow and whistle a cheerful tune in the deathly surrounding silence.

So far as sheer story-telling goes, Bogdanov works as much stage magic with a fishing rod and a few silk scarves (evoking the phosphorescent sea snakes) as with the full resources of Marty Flood's stage and Chris Ellis's apocalyptic lighting.

Irving Wardle

Psyche
Arts

Would a young psychiatrist who attacks an older master ever accuse himself of Oedipal motivation? Even if that master were *old father Freud*? Or, seeing that Freud is too long dead, suppose him to be rebelling against his Freudian tutor at Cambridge, whose passionately loyal daughter (remember Anna Freud) holds a strange attraction?

If obviousness is the most notorious criticism of Freudian doctrine, *Psyche* is the sincerest form of flattery. Smooth young Tony begins a celebrity lecture with Freudian pastiche in a patriarchal mask before unveiling his horribly controlled techno-Utopia – a capsule for 500 citizens surveyed by an élite in a phallic tower – in which dreams will be used to reveal, not the wounds and hopes of the soul, but all the data necessary for domination. An indignant visit to Tony's swish flat by the Professor's daughter Rachel, and Tony's and Rachel's dreams, which we see, conjure up the historical Freud as the real father figure, with a sly quote from Hamlet and Ophelia thrown in for good measure.

Rachel's dream casts Tony as a Viennese student shrink, submitting rebelliously to analysis with Freud and refusing Anna's bowl of symbolic apples. Tony's dream re-enacts the Gestapo's invasion of the Berggasse consulting-room, with Tony (now leather-coated) taunting the dying genius into a diagnosis of Germany's sickness as phallic fixation due to repression of child masturbation, and temporarily whisking Anna away to torment him. Tony awakes unrepentant, to rationalize his dream and realize his brave new world.

The brainchild of Paul Arnott (who also plays Tony) and *Julian Pullan*, *Psyche* is the sort of fringe play one would expect to see on an Edinburgh afternoon, and to find it in the West End, though impressive as a piece of backers' courage and producers' persuasion, is surprising to say the least. The 1938 scene, in which David Solomon's gravely insolent Freud makes a distinguished appearance, is a welcome relief from the pert banality of Mr Arnott's exchanges with Susannah Owens, but the analysis of the threat from the new autocrats of the future offers no very potent weapon against them.

Anthony Masters

THE TIMES DIARY

No standing room

Robin Harris, Leon Brittan's special adviser at the Home Office, is being hotly tipped to head the research department at Conservative Central Office. There has been much speculation in the past few weeks about why it has taken so long to fill the job since the previous incumbent, Peter Cropper, was grabbed by Nigel Lawson. The answer, of course, was that initially a condition of the job was that candidates were asked not to stand for Parliament at the next General Election. Sources say Harris, who stood as the unsuccessful Tory candidate for Tooting at the last election, may have been persuaded by Mrs Thatcher to waive his parliamentary ambitions temporarily. Meanwhile Michael Portillo is tipped for the job of head of Tory PR, following the death of Anthony Shrimsley. Negotiations for the transfer of Portillo, special adviser to the Treasury, have been put in abeyance, however, since he is on the shortlist for Enfield Southgate. Watch this space if he fails to be selected.

Home from home

I hear of a sequel to my piece on how Miners' Back-to-Work campaigner Irene McGibbon had her home daubed with paint after the *Morning Star* printed her full address for the benefit of "interested miners". Scarcely had the ink dried on her complaint to the Press Council than *Mail on Sunday* columnist Alan Williams printed the address and telephone number of *Morning Star* editor Tony Chater, inviting "well-wishers" to contact *him*. Williams is now also the subject of a Press Council complaint. Who made it – and what the repercussions were of Williams's piece – Chater is not prepared to discuss.

Missing the point

Julia Morley is not the only one who gets headaches from her Miss World beauties. When compering a show, Lord Lichfield found that one contestant did not speak anything but Serbo-Croat. Exasperated, he instructed a translator to teach her the answers to the eight statutory questions in English, parrot-fashion. All was going dandy, until Lichfield received orders on his earphone from the TV control room to miss out question 7. "So where have you been?" he duly asked. "Dr Henry Kissinger", she replied.

Channel packets

The launch of the 1984 Beaujolais Nouveau in Macon on Wednesday night was not an occasion for black ties and spitting bowls. The English runners wore rally jackets and emptied their glasses as if there were no tomorrow, let alone a 300-mile drive ahead. Among the 151 were two leather-clad motor cyclists, drivers of a pair of Harley Street ambulances, Nicholas Parsons and a north country engineer who had not told his wife he had travelled via Amsterdam's red light district. In the end the first *nouveau* on British soil did not arrive on wheels – or even in a bottle. One hundred-and-forty-four litres landed at Southend airport just after 1 am, packed prosaically in Colman's wine boxes. The wine snobs said it was as much as this year's sun-starved vintage deserved.

BARRY FANTONI



'I thought money *lenders* were the traditional target'

Mac's wet

No doubt now to whose mantle Energy Secretary Peter Walker is aspiring. On Tuesday, in his maiden speech to the Lords, the Earl of Stockton decried "mutual hatred" and said the present divided state of Britain broke his heart. Yesterday from the office of the last remaining "wet" in the Cabinet, came invitations to editors and political journalists to hear Walker give the first – and hitherto unpublicized – annual Harold Macmillan lecture next week. The subject: "The Middle Way: 50 Years On." Collusion? Coincidence? Not at all, exclaim the National Union of Young Conservatives, who are organizing the talk. Lord Stockton, says chairman John Guthrie, is the life patron of the YCs and "this is something we could do to institutionalize his way of thinking, so it is permanently remembered and respected inside the Conservative Party". Walker, he points out, was invited because he is the YC national president, though it "is obviously appropriate that someone close to Harold Macmillan, personally and politically, should address the first lecture." This talking in code can be tiresome.

PHS

Falkland factors we can no longer ignore

by David Steel

The Goverment has consistently mishandled relations with Argentina since the fall of the military junta and the election of President Alfonsin. Our quarrel was with the repressive junta who invaded British territory, not with the Argentines as a people.

When President Alfonsin was installed we should have sent a high-powered representative to the celebrations to underline our determination to restore good relations. Instead we sent a telegram of good wishes. A few weeks ago, when President Alfonsin addressed the European Parliament, most of the British MEPS stayed away, according to some reports on direct orders from Downing Street.

Democracy is a fragile commodity in Argentina. Raoul Alfonsin is unusual in that he has never held office under any military regime, but opposed them. As a *Times* leader said of his government a year ago: "It may be unpopular, given the enormous and painful tasks of reconstruction which face it. It is all the more important therefore that Britain shows that it is easier to talk to a civilian government about the Falkland Islands than it was or would be with a military one."

On four distinct occasions during the last 20 years, two of them during the dictatorship, it has been declared British policy to secure a transfer of sovereignty over the Falkland Islands to Argentina. It would therefore be a remarkable turnound to refuse to contemplate *any* conditions for such transfer to a democratic Argentina. Yet British policy is vague and ambiguous.

Prior to the Berne talks this summer, the Argentines were happy to leave the issue of sovereignty well down the agenda, to allow time to heal wounds. Unfortunately the British infuriated not only the Argentines but also the Swiss hosts by expecting the issue to be raised formally and then forgotten. The British issued a declaration that "we are not prepared to discuss sovereignty" – a phrase capable of meaning either "we are not ready to" or "we are not willing to". Missing from the statement was either the word "yet" or "ever". Subsequent statements by ministers have failed to clarify the matter.

This intended ambiguity cannot serve as a long-term policy. Mrs Thatcher is wrong if she believes that support for the task force applies also to a dead-end policy over the islands' future. The policy first went off the rails when she declared the wishes of the islanders to be "paramount", echoed foolishly by Labour's then foreign affairs spokesman, Peter Shore.

As the *Financial Times* put it in a recent leader: "The wishes of the Falkland Islanders are not paramount: they are subservient to the wishes of the British Parliament and ultimately to the readiness of the British people to sustain them in a strange and highly unsatisfactory situation. It is neither realistic nor honest for the British Government to hide behind the notion of absolute self-determination which can only be applicable to a territory that is potentially independent".

A more sensible doctrine has been embraced in the case of Hongkong, where the impractability of hanging on after the New Territories lease expires in 1997 was the main consideration. So the *interests* of 5 million people have been protected as far as possible in negotiations between the two governments and their *wishes* confined to a realistic choice between take it or leave it.

Yet the 1,800 people on the Falklands are apparently for ever more to dictate a ludicrous dent in our defence and other budgets – at a time when every other area of public spending is under constraint – and to dictate a hostile attitude to a major democracy in Latin America.

A willingness to put sovereignty back on the agenda could lead to fairly swift restoration of diplomatic ties, formal cessation of hostilities, the lifting of the Falklands protection zone and a return to normal trade. A fair deal on the Falklands would substantially reduce public expenditure in Britain and help stabilize the Alfonsin government.

What would be a fair deal? The agreement between Argentina and Chile on the Beagle Channel gives hope that a distinction could be agreed between the Falklands and the other islands, South Georgia and the Sandwich group, where the British title is generally accepted as stronger.

As to the Falklands themselves, the interests of the islanders and their way of life (disrupted by the Fortress Falklands policy) must be protected. The islands would also have to be demilitarized under some international guarantee.

There was something rotten in the state of Argentina which lay at the heart of the Falklands invasion. The military junta had an appalling record on human rights at home as well as in this foreign adventure. We should wake up to the fact that it has gone. We should not repeat the aimless vacillation towards the Falklands which characterized the two decades before the tragedy and which, as the Franks Report clearly indicates, helped bring it about.

Michael Ignatieff assesses new arguments on the state of socialism

Where Labour and reality diverge



No party is free of illusions. Among Tories illusion takes the form of faith in the market. Among social democrats and liberals, it is that cautious appeals to consensus will win votes in a society deeply divided by the kinds of enmities at work in the miners' strike. Among socialists, the source of illusion is moral windbaggery: the failure to match moral commitment to practical policy.

Socialists are windbags about democracy: hoarsely in its favour, deeply confused about what it means. Labour's fratricidal disarray in the past decade, when seen as an argument of principle, can be understood as a battle between two competing definitions. Labour MPs and trade union leaders believe democracy means listening to the electoral majority and preparing for government, while the new generation of party activists believe it means giving a voice to electoral minorities and an extra-parliamentary movement of protest.

Labour windbaggery extends to a failure to think through the conflict between local democracy and national economic planning. In two new books, centrist Fabians and left-wing *New Socialist* writers alike show they are aware of it, but none faces up to the likely problems which could result from the contradiction.

In the current fight over the future of the GLC and the metropolitan authorities, most socialists line up on the side of local democracy against Whitehall tyranny. But what would happen to the socialist commitment to local democracy if Labour were in power in Whitehall trying to force Kensington and Chelsea, for example, to implement a socialist housing policy?

There is little doubt that Tony Benn is a democrat: the trouble is that he is always dreaming of the truly fair, truly unbiased election in which he would sweep the poll. There is no doubt that Arthur Scargill and the miners' leaders are democrats: the trouble is they won't trust their own members enough to have a national ballot.

The second example of the failure to match rhetoric to strategy concerns economics. Socialist indifference to the subject is a long-standing *hauteur*: "a sheer waste of time", Beatrice Webb is supposed to have muttered. Yet socialists have paid dearly, most recently in France, for their failure to ground moral righteousness in economic feasibility.

In both the Fabian and *New Socialist* essays, proposals to redistribute wealth are not matched by adequate proposals to improve its production. It may be true that the wealthiest 20 per cent of the population need only lose one fifth of their income in order to double the incomes of the poorest 20 per cent. One need not be a timid Croslandite to believe that no such redistribution will happen unless the economy recovers its international competitiveness.

In the ravaged economy socialists are likely to inherit in 1990 the most urgent inequality will be between those with secure employment and those more or less permanently denied it. A redistributive politics unlinked to a credible productivity and employment policy will fall at the first run on the pound.

Those writers who do face the problem agree with Mrs Thatcher in one crucial respect: a conventional reflation along the lines proposed by the Social Democrats and Tory wets will only result in inflation and a further deterioration of the balance of payments. As the Labour MP Stuart Holland argues, increased imports sucked in by reflation could only be offset by increased exports if socialist EEC members agree on a concerted program of industrial recovery and reconquest of their internal market.

It is a welcome relief from the go-it-alone fantasies of the Little Englanders of the left to find emphasised the necessary European dimension of a socialist recovery. But the abiding paralysis of Europe leave one wondering whether Stuart Holland's proposals are not dogged by that besetting socialist vice: pious internationalism.

The revival of demand in Europe is of little use, as the Cambridge economist John Eatwell argues, if the collapse of British industry during the 1980s leaves no British suppliers in the field.

It is in the field of industrial policy that new socialist thought shows the most tenacious attempt to throw off the dead hand of a Clause 4 nationalization strategy.

Peter Kellner's clever attack on suspicion of the market mechanism shows clearly that ownership of industry and banking is less important than the establishment of a "rule of law" over the marketplace, whereby investment decisions are made a matter of democratic choice. The challenge is to make planning acquire some of the responsiveness of markets, by bringing the planning process as close as possible to the workers who make the goods and the consumers who buy them.

This is the thrust behind the local planning boards set up by Labour-controlled authorities. The "popular planning units" fund research and development into socially useful products which could revitalize the shattered industry of inner cities. Whether local planners prove more efficient than the local bank manager in spotting investment opportunities remains to seen.

The biggest piety among socialists is that the trade union movement represents the real interests of the working class. This is doubtful enough, but it is even more preposterous to claim that the interests of the organized working class are synonymous with those of the community as a whole. Among the *New Socialist* writers, only the LSE Professor Brian Abel Smith – who watched a Labour government being brought to its knees by the claims of public sector workers in the 1979 winter of discontent – nails this piety for what it is. Socialism, he writes, is about equality: "The Labour movement is about differentials."

Many key elements of a genuinely socialist economic strategy would call for conflict with the Labour movement. As women trade unionists have found to their cost, policies such as job sharing, overtime bans, a minimum wage policy, the 35-hour week, and equal pay for equal work have met with almost as much resistance from unions as from employers.

There is also an obvious contradiction in principle between free collective bargaining and a national economic strategy capable of containing inflation. This contradiction destroyed the credibility of Labour's economic package in the last manifesto, and may do so again.

One of the ironies of Mrs Thatcher's attack on trade unions is that she has secured them against attack from the left. Yet the day of reckoning within the socialist movement must come if there is to be a viable and believable socialist strategy for the next election. The test of socialist leadership is not only having the courage to take on one's enemies, and God knows they are legion, but also one's friends.

The Future of the Left *edited by James Curran, published by Polity Press & New Socialist: £16.50 hardback, £4.95 paperback.* Fabian Essays in Socialist Thought, *edited by Ben Pimlott, published by Heinemann Educational Books; £19.50 hardback, £8.50 paperback.*

Flick: will this really be the last reel?

Bonn

Few debates can have been so painful for German politicians as that opening in the Bundestag today on the Flick affair. For though self-righteous speakers will point accusing fingers at their political opponents, West Germany's established parties know they are all being called to account for years of dubious practices. Only the Greens are spared.

After the resignation of Rainer Barzel, Speaker of the Bundestag, after allegations that he received a DM 1.7m pay-off from the Flick group of companies, Chancellor Helmut Kohl was questioned for seven hours about his relations with Flick. The Vice-Chancellor, Hans-Dietrich Genscher followed him on to the witness stand. Two former economics ministers are awaiting trial on corruption charges, and dozens of other familiar names have been found on Flick's lists of recipients.

The government, in calling the debate, has rightly sensed that unless it moves swiftly to acknowledge past errors and bring the remaining doubts and questions into the open, the crisis of confidence could seriously affect German democracy. The debate is also an attempt to regain the initiative from the Greens, to put the Social Democrats on the spot by forcing them to acknowledge their equal culpability, and to stop further political capital being made out of the affair. It is time, Herr Kohl believes, to call a halt to the scandal.

The scandal had been going on so long that public and political sensibilities had become dulled. The public had become cynical and politicians had failed to see the moral implications of their connivance with big business in getting round the laws on political donations. But now the moral dimension has suddenly been brought home to those machine politicians who supported an amnesty for all those firms that fiddled their taxes while lining the parties' coffers in the 1970s. That a politician of Herr Barzel's standing could apparently have accepted so much money for himself, rather than for his party, from one firm under such clear suspicion of trying to win friends in high places does set a dangerous, if not a criminal, precedent.

Press comparisons of West Germany to a "banana republic" are apt, for the phrase comes from the notorious example of the powerful American company that secured its commercial interest simply by buying up all the leading politicians in Central America.

No one suggests that Flick ever achieved anything on that scale. Nor were all donations intended to secure political influence. Many small firms were unclear about the rather hazy rules on supporting political parties.

Two questions arise from the Flick affair, however, which today's debate will have to clarify before the political establishment can clear its name. The first is how such a lamentable situation came about; the second is whether it could happen again.

The answer to the first is rooted in the special circumstances of Germany's postwar rebirth of democracy. The open support by big business of Hitler made German industry wary of getting involved in politics again, and politicians fearful of accepting direct contributions.

But politics costs money, especially in a country where politicians think nothing of chartering a plane if they are away from Bonn and late for a Bundestag vote, and charging the state.

The only way, under the strict new laws, of getting enough money for campaigning was to conceal its origins. So front organizations were set up by the Christian, Social and Free Democrats, supporting the parties' aims but acting as respectable charities to whom businessmen could happily pass on donations. A series of dubious cultural, religious and social organizations sprang up and politicians were careful not to ask questions about where their funds came from.

This sloppy accounting led some people to forget the golden rule in politics – never accept envelopes containing cash, whatever the source. It is now up to the courts to prove whether there was ever a *quid pro quo* in the Flick case.

The government has already answered the second question, pushing through changes in the law last year to make all political donations more visible and accountable, while allowing parties more federal money to reduce their dependence on soliciting support. The Barzel affair has added an extra twist, and there is now widespread support for a full declaration by Bundestag members of their outside earnings and interests.

Herr Kohl has insisted that Flick should not scare people from putting their money where their political values lie. Nor, he said, was German democracy up for sale – but until the work of the parliamentary investigating committee is done and all the possible incriminating evidence examined, few people will be convinced of either. And a number of politicians still tremble to see what will be in each new issue of *Der Spiegel*.

Michael Binyon

David Watt

In the long run, a bad short cut

I have been thinking of Archbishop John Morton, of blessed memory, Chancellor to King Henry VII and the author, as every school child knows, of that celebrated fifteenth century "Catch-22" known as Morton's Fork (or Crutch). If a nobleman appeared in the Chancellor's presence in fine raiment he was told that he could obviously afford a hefty tax assessment. If, on the other hand, he appeared in a down-at-the-heel guise Morton retorted that he must be saving so much that he had plenty to spare for the Exchequer. This ploy was a brilliant success except (as the authors of *1066 and All That* pregnantly remark) when Morton stuck the fork in too far.

Mrs Thatcher and the Treasury are making this last, fatal miscalculation over Britain's overseas representation and economic aid. For reasons of style, occupation and history – in short its "raiment" – the Foreign and Commonwealth Office is still assumed by many politicians and most of the public to be rich and an eminently suitable target for cuts.

Its outlying dependencies – the aid programme, the overseas service of the BBC and the British Council – are under permanent attack, from left or right, on grounds of conspicuous consumption and doubtful utility. But the fact is that both the diplomatic service and the other elements of the FCO vote are already so thin and impoverished that the cuts of £35m imposed on them this week are a genuine threat to their essential functions.

The fact that the Treasury has cunningly put Sir Geoffrey Howe in the position of having to make the decision about which of these responsibilities should be sacrificed does not make matters any better. The Foreign Secretary has allowed himself to be manoeuvred into a choice between jumping out of the window or retiring to the library with a pistol.

Politically speaking, of course, the least unpopular course would be to decimate the "champagne-swilling" diplomatic service itself. The trouble is that from the practical point of view this is potentially the most damaging strategy, for the simple reason that so much has already been done. The FCO lost 11 per cent of its jobs between 1968 and 1979, and another 10 per cent between 1979 and the present.

It could be, and was, argued that this rationalization was misguided at a time when the increased number of independent nations and the widening search for export markets obliged us to increase missions abroad by nearly 30. The counter-argument, which I supported myself, was a very powerful one - that in our new situation as a predominately European power it was time we dispensed with a huge global network of political intelligence, and concentrated our efforts more economically on areas where our interests were most clearly involved.

We have now concentrated on our main trading and strategic partners, and increased economic activities of our diplomats, at the expense of the political. But we have also maintained a fairly wide network of small missions elsewhere, very thinly spread.

This compromise has sometimes been attacked as self-indulgent, but it has been justified by the lessons we have been given since the first oil shock. Britain's growing vulnerability in a shrinking globe demands a wider and more flexible early-warning system than previously.

You can always point to the margin and say that one less second secretary or one fewer mission would not make much difference and you can go on repeating this process of degradation until there is nothing left except a tiny core of representation in the developed western countries. But at some point along this line the machine will become too weakened to respond to the minimum demands made on it. That point, I believe, is quite near.

Rather the same arguments apply to the BBC External Services and the British Council. Those ancillary means of promoting British influence are generally agreed to be a "good thing", and anyone who travels a lot rapidly comes to realize that they have an effect out of all proportion to the amount spent on them. The trouble, as in the case of the diplomatic service, is how to reply to the man from the Treasury who says it would not do much harm to cut out some broadcasts, say in French.

We are once again discussing marginal intangibles. We have been cutting them for a decade because it is easy to do so. But here, too, we have nearly reached a critical point at which further cuts will leave institutions that are not worth preserving.

At first sight the aid programme looks a much simpler candidate for the axe. After all, any aid is better than none and who can say what is enough or what is appropriate? In practice, however, because it is a moral issue and because many British businesses have an interest in the exports associated with it, it is not nearly so clear-cut.

We have already cut our aid by 19 per cent in real terms since 1979; and by dint of juggling and rearranging payments we have on the whole managed to do so without reneging on previous commitments. But even without the Ethiopian crisis we have reached the end of that road. Any further cuts must now make embarrassing and possibly damaging dents in our bilateral relations with the Third World, as well as outraging the ethical considerations at the root of all economic aid.

The government does not seem to have given serious thought to the wider implications of what is proposed. That is partly the fault of the system which for all the panoply of the Star Chamber and so forth, still works on the basis of ministerial snatch-and-grab. But it is also the fault of the Foreign Secretary who, so far as I know, has never really tried to educate his colleagues on the importance of "intangibles".

Mr Lawson ought to reflect that in his case, unlike that of Archbishop Morton, he has a serious interest in the survival of his victim.

Philip Howard

A tax we should all stamp on

Let us not be beastly to the book trade. Some of my best friends are publishers. Some publishers are as intelligent as some of the authors on their lists: and you can take that any way you want. The booksellers are generous liberal-minded men. It would be brutal and philistine to impose VAT on books, magazines, and newspapers, so driving small country booksellers out of business, forcing publishers to cut out lunch, and putting newspaper proprietors on the dole.

The recent remarkable crop of articles deploring the possible effect of a tax on publishing has been sown by the deliberately floated rumour that the Chancellor is thinking of extending VAT to publications in his next Budget. Since he will start to make up his mind on the matter around Christmas, now is the time for the trade to orchestrate its anticipatory protest; and now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of the party.

The *argumentum ad misericordiam* is a good one, but not, I think, good enough. I pity the poor struggling publishers, and, as a matter of fact, think that they produce more important work than the miners, the distillers, ICI, and even the theatrical producers. But I am in as good a position as anybody to know that more than 50 per cent of their products are trivial pap. Why should "newspapers" that are merely sheets for bingo, television programmes, and scandal go untaxed? Anyway, the function of the taxman is to extend his vile depredations impartially and equally over all classes and professions of men.

The *argumentum ad crumenam* is a good one, but not good enough. VAT on books and papers would hit most of the population in its pocket. But most of us would squeeze that bit extra to buy the new Iris Murdoch, or *The Times*, as it might be. In any case, if we were to charge what it actually costs to produce *The Times* even before the VATman cometh, we should lose the legendary little old lady with two cats in Hastings, who is our most important reader.

Let us avoid the *argumentum ad populum* and the *argumentum ad baculum*, at least for the moment. I think that the *argumentum scholasticum* is the best one yet. Schools and colleges and universities are already critically starved of books for teaching and research. A tax that increased the cost of books without increasing the budgets of schools to buy them by at least as much would be a barbarian attack on education.

But in fact we do not need any of these technical arguments, powerful as some of them are. The overwhelming argument is the one about the freedom of the press put by the trumpet-tongued old republican: "Give me the liberty to know, to utter, and to argue freely according to conscience, above all liberties." Milton! thou shouldst be living at this hour: the Publishers' Association hath need of thee. Any tax, however small, that makes the freedom of speech more expensive, is a tax on liberty. The chief glory of every people arises from its authors, and, to a lesser extent, Samuel, from its newspapers. We cannot discriminate in this matter. If VAT falls on *The Jane Fonda Pop-Up Book of Anaerobic Jogging* there is no reason in taxman's equity why it should not fall on true poetry or original scholarship or school textbooks. Tax bingo-sheets, and you will soon have to tax *The Times*.

It is boring that we have to fight this battle again, since it was fought and won more than a century ago in the campaign to abolish the stamp tax on publication, the "tax on knowledge". I regret to have to tell you that on that occasion *The Times* was on the side of the infidel, against the abolition of the stamp duty, which would make it cheaper to publish rivals to its dominance of the press. In the Parliamentary Select Committee Cobden asked the manager of *The Times* whether it would not be just to publish the cheapest possible papers, and "leave it to the sagacity of people, to their own self interest and love of truth to find out what was sound". The manager replied tartly: "I have very little opinion of the sagacity of uneducated people."

We have moved on at New Printing House Square since then. A knowledge tax would be fiscally tidy. It would be only a small one in the vast maw of tax. Other countries do it without lapsing into tyranny and destitution; we know, we know. Nevertheless, VAT on publication will be resisted by all democrats as a thoroughly illiberal and reactionary measure.



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JOINING THE CLUB

Dr Mario Soares, the Portuguese prime minister, who visits London next week, is a fairly patient man. That is just as well because the patience of the proverbial saint would certainly be required for the task which Dr Soares undertook more than seven and a half years ago: that of negotiating Portugal's admission to the European Community. Dr Soares himself has spent much of that time in opposition, but he returned to power last year to find Portugal's application still waiting on the resolution of differences within the existing EEC about the budget and Britain's contribution to it.

Those differences were at last resolved, more or less, at the Fontainebleau summit this June, and last month European ministers went so far as to announce that Portugal and the EEC were embarked on an "irreversible" process of integration. This was confirmed by an agreement in principle signed by Dr Soares and Dr Garret FitzGerald, and is understood to mean that all major problems directly relating to Portuguese membership have now been solved. Yet Portugal still waits for the outcome of negotiations with Spain, which applied for membership a few months after her, since everyone agrees that it makes sense for them to join simultaneously; those negotiations themselves are still marking time while the existing EEC members struggle to agree on a common negotiating position.

In fact it is increasingly obvious that these negotiations among the Ten are the *real* negotiations, and that the package which emerges from them will have to be accepted by the applicants with little substantive change. That is a problem for all who have to deal with the EEC, as Dr Kissinger long ago pointed out, and for those who have the choice it is a strong argument for being in rather than out. If one is out one is excluded from a decision-making process so complex and difficult that its results, once reached, are extremely hard to alter, if only because all concerned are too exhausted to reopen the file.

Of course Spain and Portugal do in theory have the option of rejecting the package offered to them and deciding to stay out after all. There must be some temptation to exercise that option out of anger at the unconscionable time they have been kept waiting, and at the fact that such progress as is achieved towards a common position of the Ten seems almost always to take the form of concessions by those who would be relatively generous to those who would be tougher. That results from another unwritten but observable law of the Community's functioning, namely the tendency to drift towards the position of the country with the strongest national interest at stake. That in turn is the inevitable result of having a Community which remains essentially an association of sovereign states, despite its supranational trappings.

Luckily, however, the Iberian peoples and their political leaders are mature enough not to allow such crucial decisions to be taken in anger. They will express anger, no doubt, and perhaps use it to obtain a few concessions of detail. But when it comes to a yes or a no they will, one can feel confident, accept that the balance of advantage for them is still in favour of a yes.

One reason for that is the one already alluded to, namely that a state once inside the Community has far greater leverage over its decisions than one on the outside. Even Britain, which had as the price of entry to accept a system of community finance which was fundamentally unfair to her, has eventually been able to get that corrected; and the "ungenerous" terms now likely to be offered to Spain and Portugal do not contain any such fundamental flaw as that. Most of the argument is about fisheries and food, and these are not areas where the two countries can conceivably find themselves actually worse off as a result of joining the EEC. What the lack of generosity amounts to is preventing them from benefiting as much or as quickly as they would do if all the existing rules of the Community were applied to them without limitation and without delay.

To suppose that all those rules could have been applied to Spain without limit or alteration would certainly be naive. Some of them need altering in any case, irrespective of Spanish entry which simply injects an extra urgency into the case for an overdue reform: the most flagrant example being the wine lake which, thanks to Italian overproduction and before any Spanish tributary flows into it, already fills the equivalent of 24,000 Olympic swimming-pools, because at present all unsold wine is automatically bought from the producers and distilled into alcohol. The French government is rightly insisting that this arrangement must in future be subject to a quota system – similar to that which France is having such difficulty in applying to milk, though in fact for wine it is much easier to operate. On this issue it is Italy rather than Spain that is going to have to accept a sacrifice – though it looks as if Signor Craxi will resist all the way to the Dublin summit at the beginning of next month.

The Spanish government has an additional reason for saying yes without further delay. It is committed to hold a referendum on Nato membership in February 1986 and all the signs are that it now wants Spain to remain in Nato, though probably on "French" terms i.e. without integration of its military forces. Even this will not be easy to sell to the Spanish voters, who lack the experience of common resistance to Nazism and are still prone to associate Nato with support for the Franco dictatorship. It would almost certainly be impossible in an atmosphere soured by failure to achieve membership of the EEC, whereas the immediate aftermath of Spain's full accession to the family of European democracies on January 1, 1986 would surely be the most auspicious timing that could be asked.

HARD CASE, GOOD LAW

Hard cases make bad law, it is said, and the Law Lords who exonerated the Home Secretary yesterday from having abused his powers over parole of prisoners showed a true legal instinct in not letting themselves be swayed by the bad luck that had undoubtedly been suffered by the four prisoners who accused him. Mr Brittan stands vindicated in law, and it is good that the law affords him the discretion to act as he did.

It was at last year's Conservative Party conference that he announced the policy change which led to his being hauled before the House of Lords. He was faced there with a delicate double problem of prison overcrowding and public outcry about over-lenient sentences. It was difficult to act on the former without incurring the disfavour of delegates who still had Parliament's recent rejection of capital punishment freshly in mind. So he counterbalanced an announcement of earlier parole for several thousand short-term offenders by announcing that he would apply much stricter parole policies towards very serious offenders. Some categories of murderer, including those who killed police or prison officers or killed in the course of armed robbery, would normally have to serve at least 20 years before having any hope of parole.

This mollified the delegates, but caused distress elsewhere. Mr Brittan had omitted to consult the Parole Board in advance: several members expressed dismay, and one resigned. The probation officers called the change "cruel and inhumane", and the Prison Officers Association complained that in dealing with lifers its members would now be denied "carrot as well as stick".

But the most immediately affected were four prisoners who had been on the edge of being granted parole. Two of them with life sentences had been moved to an open prison (an acknowledged preliminary to parole). On the day of Mr Brittan's announcement they were moved back into a closed prison, and on strict application of the new rules now have five and nine years to wait before they can expect release. For men with "exemplary" prison records, Lord Scarman said in his judgment yesterday, the disappointment had a "shattering impact".

Mr Brittan's action was contested in court on several grounds, and Lord Scarman rejects them one by one. Whatever courtesy might dictate, the statute does not oblige him to consult the Parole Board before formulating a new policy. Mr Brittan was not improperly fettering his own discretion because he made clear that although he would have a different general attitude in future, he would still have an eye for "genuinely exceptional circumstances".

He was not contravening the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (which forbids the imposition of heavier penalties than "the one applicable at the time the offence was committed"), because parole is always a privilege and never a right.

This is hard, but right. There is a doctrine of legitimate expectation in the law of judicial review, says Lord Scarman, but it implies a right to judicial review, not to automatic freedom. It would have been open to Mr Brittan to exercise his discretion and apply the "exceptional circumstances" rubric to the disappointed men, but in general he was right to make it clear that he was going to apply a different policy on parole applications. It is impossible for a Home Secretary to make such decisions without having an open or tacit general policy, and spelling the policy out helps to minimize the uncertainties and disappointments inevitably involved in applying for parole.

In arriving at a policy, he necessarily takes into account not only the circumstances of the individual cases but also wider considerations of deterrence and retribution. Mr Brittan was responding to a perceived public anxiety that too little weight was being given to deterrence – an anxiety which could undermine confidence in the parole system if disregarded. There is everything to gain by spelling out that he means take a more serious view of certain kinds of offence, so long as there is no question of applying an indiscriminate bar: and Mr Brittan has promised that he will not do that.

Threat to medical care

From the Dean of St George's Hospital Medical School.

Sir, This year has seen the publication of the strategic planning frameworks for the next 10 years by the four Thames regional health authorities.

These frameworks pose, a threat for all of London's acute medical services and all the London teaching hospitals of a kind not previously seen. There is little if any attempt to preserve either reasonable medical care for people living in London, or the special and precious qualities of teaching hospitals.

The frameworks have been produced to plan for a reduction in resources available to the Thames regions and to switch resources away from acute medical services to other care groups, and also away from London to the more rural parts of the regions.

The proposals for the teaching district of this medical school serve to illustrate the point.

Over the 10-year period the framework suggests a reduction of 45 per cent in acute bed numbers, a 34 per cent reduction in maternity beds, and a slight reduction in beds for the elderly. The acute beds in our neighbouring district, also used for teaching, are to be cut by 47 per cent if the plan were implemented.

In 1981 the Secretary of State accepted the recommendations of the London Advisory Group that a 15 per cent cut between 1979 and 1988 in the total number of acute beds in London was justified: some of this reduction has already occurred.

Further cuts of the magnitude now proposed will lead to an unacceptably low level of provision for acute medical care for the whole London area and the loss of the unique qualities and established excellence of our university teaching hospitals.

Yours sincerely,
RICHARD WEST, Dean,
St George's Hospital Medical School,
University of London,
Cranmer Terrace,
Tooting, SW17.
November 7.

Fully entitled?

From Mr J. Anthony Hart

Sir, Mrs Quest-Ritson's concern (November 10) over the use of the term "Esquire" on envelopes reminded me that two months into a year's teaching contract in France I had, to my surprise and disappointment, received no mail from England, despite a daily search of the "H" pigeonhole.

It was only on seeing a pile of unopened letters in the "E" pigeonhole that I realised the French porter had been accumulating letters for some fictitious Monsieur Esq.

Yours faithfully,
J. ANTHONY HART, Headmaster,
Reigate St Mary's Preparatory School,
Chart Lane,
Reigate,
Surrey.
November 10.

From Sir Ronald Lindsay

Sir, I address my youngest boy as "Master" at his prep school, and his elder brothers now at their public schools as "Esquire".

When will they decide that their (verbal) address to me will be "Father" in place of "Papa"?

Yours,
RONALD LINDSAY,
Courleigh,
Colley Lane,
Reigate,
Surrey.
November 10.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

On Japanese side of the fence

From Professor Yoshiko Furuki

Sir, I appreciated Mr Leather's letter (November 8) because it provided a view different from that old, stereotype image of the Japanese as mere imitators. May I contribute a few more facts in support of Mr Leather's analysis?

The three major newspapers in Japan have, among them, a subscription of 20 million copies. That means the majority of the adult population (regardless of the colour of their collars) read, every day, a paper comparable with *The Times*, *The Guardian* and the *Daily Telegraph* in quality.

According to a survey conducted every year for the past 15 years, 90 per cent of the Japanese consider themselves as belonging to "the middle class". Some critics consider this self-placement an illusion, but it is an illusion which has worked.

Japanese society is not as "structured" as some Britons think. Education, accompanied by efforts, can bring one up to the top of that 90 per cent bracket. One does not feel that his opportunity is limited by his father's occupation, his own class or accent.

There are many things I admire about this country. In fact, many Japanese, for generations, have tried to learn from you. And it is good to know that there are some people in this country who are ready to look at us in a different light. We would be very happy if such people should find a useful hint or two in that light.

Yours sincerely,
YOSHIKO FURUKI
(Professor of English,
Tsuda College, Tokyo).
Darwin College,
Cambridge.
November 8

Music in London

From Mr David Bedford and others

Sir, We are deeply disturbed by the programme planning of the four London symphony orchestra, which excludes almost entirely the work of living composers. London is still sometimes referred to as the musical capital of the world, but a mere glance at the activities of other international music centres shows that this is no longer remotely the case.

As a nation, we are rightly proud of our living writers, artists and film-makers but, on the evidence of the programmes for the present concert season, appear to be ashamed of contemporary composers.

As many events in London and elsewhere have proved, there is a substantial and enthusiastic audience for the music of today, especially when presented with flair and enterprise.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID BEDFORD, DOMINIC MULDOWNEY,
MICHAEL BERKELEY, STEPHEN OLIVER,
BRIAN ELIAS, ANTHONY PAYNE,
JONATHAN HARVEY, ROBERT SIMPSON,
JOHN HOPKINS, TIM J SOUSTER,
COLIN MATTHEWS,
JOHN McCABE.

The Association of Professional Composers,
81A Priory Road, NW6.
November 9.

Regard for ratepayers

From Mr Roland Rench

Sir, For many years now some of us have been fighting to reduce extravagance and profligacy in the water industry Just when we thought that a sense of responsibility and a genuine regard for efficiency had at last been established – and there would be a reversal of the swingeing increases in charges of the past decade – the Government intervenes to insist upon an increase of 12 per cent or thereabouts (report, November 9).

Is this just one further example of taxation through the back door – which again will hit hardest the least affluent members of the community? If not, what steps will the Government be taking to ensure that the additional revenue – i.e., that which will accrue beyond the maximum increase which otherwise would have been necessary next April (say, 5 per cent) – is going to be spent, properly and efficiently upon overdue maintenance and upon essential capital works?

Ratepayers have the right to receive a satisfactory explanation now.

Yours sincerely,
ROLAND RENCH,
8 Minsbull Place,
Park Road,
Beckenham,
Kent.
November 10.

Religious instruction

From Mr Howard Cunnington

Sir, Your leader on teaching religion in schools (October 31) was on the whole balanced and fair but failed to mention one current practice in many secondary schools. I refer to the integration of religious education into a general social studies course in the fourth and fifth years. Here is where the subject is losing its distinctiveness and cutting edge in our school curriculum. Many people teaching it have little or no religious persuasion or sympathy with the subject and unconciously either leave it out altogether or treat it as pre-scientific myth.

Many schools are in fact (either conciously or unconsciously) breaking the law of the land, as well as the "moral law" which should allow young people a genuine chioce to accept or reject a religious way of life.

Yours sincerely,
HOWARD CUNNINGTON,
The School of St David & St Katharine,
Hillfield Avenue,
Hornsey, N8.
November 1.

How to get help to the hungry

From the Acting Director of Christian Aid.

Sir, It is desperately sad that when millions face death in Ethiopia you should devote space to castigating everything from the Organisation of African Unity to Christian agencies and War on Want under the tendentious title "Embezzled aid" (November 12).

Your readers were left with the notion that certain agencies, and spokesmen associated with them, had "kept quiet about Ethiopian oppression for fear of being prevented from doing any good". Oddly, you chose to associate your remarks with the two agencies which have been most outspoken about events in Ethiopia and who are largely working with those receiving little or no international aid or media attention – the rural populations in areas outside Government-controlled towns in the north of the country.

Christian Aid has spent £2.5m in Ethiopia since January, most of it trying to help the rural poor of Eritrea and Tigray to survive and improve their land. It has also made constant references to the imbalances in the levels of aid to those who need it most.

Many journalists visiting Addis Ababa continue to give the impression that aid is now getting through to all those who need it. But on November 3 your newspaper referred to new information from Christian Aid about the continuing civil war in Eritrea and the fact that vast numbers in northern Ethiopia are still not receiving any of the food now arriving from Addis and the main ports.

They will not do so until the Ethiopian Government allows humanitarian agencies safe passage to enter those rural areas still cut off by the civil war. The two liberation movements involved are open to such action, but there has been no response on the Government side.

Those now going hungry in Ethiopia would be better served by *The Times* highlighting the necessity for swift access to all those in need.

Yours faithfully,
MARTIN BAX,
Acting Director,
Christian Aid,
PO Box No 1, SW9
November 13

From Mr Denis Hills

Sir, Some years ago, while visiting derelict Byzantine and Armenian churches in Turkey, I found several of them stacked high with unused cartons of powdered milk donated by the Americans as relief aid.

When I asked why the food had not been distributed the Turks told me: "Turkish mothers don't want it. They don't think powdered milk is proper food." The aid was wasted.

In 1980 relief workers hurried to northern Uganda from the West to save starving Karamojong tribesmen from a famine that had filled TV screens with horrifying pictures of people dying by the wayside. Yet their neighbours, the Acholi, were not at all happy about these life-saving efforts by charitable foreigners, for them, the Karamojong were enemies who, for years, had been burning their huts and stealing their cattle.

"Why help these naked savages and cattle thieves?" they asked me. "Let them perish!" Here aid had been resented because of tribal hostility.

Africans are realistic about suffering and can be callous (in time of famine the younger Ik, who live on the Sudan border, would leave the old people and children to starve while they went off hunting to fill their own stomachs). Governments argue that when there are too many people nature redresses the balance and they will simply die: a new generation will quickly replace them.

Who then can be trusted to put food into a starving child's mouth? The native official, the soldier and black marketeer will want to seize their own share of the "loot" first.

My own first choice in handling relief supplies would be missionaries. The experienced Verona Fathers have already proved their devotion as relief workers in Uganda. It is people like this who should be called on in emergencies such as Ethiopia is now suffering.

Yours faithfully,
DENIS HILLS,
The Mullions,
Snitterfield,
Nr Stratford-upon-Avon,
Warwickshire.
November 11.

From Mr Anthony Simpson, MEP for Northamptonshire (Conservative)

Sir, In response to the famine in Ethiopia both press and public have called for the EEC "grain mountain" to be sent there without delay. In fact the EEC has already sent 80,000 tonnes this year with a further 230,000 tonnes to follow. It is now purchasing locally produced grain to speed up delivery times.

A little-known fact is that the "grain mountain" is not the property of the EEC. It is the property of the individual member states, purchased with their money on their behalf by their national intervention agencies. The EEC refunds the purchase price to the member state only when the grain is sold or disposed of.

At present the EEC is short of funds; indeed an extra £1bn has recently been approved to fund its 1984 deficit. Could not the United Kingdom Government set an example to its Community partners by releasing a substantial amount of its grain from intervention and foregoing the refund from the Community?

This would provide both speedy and effective relief.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY SIMPSON,
Bassets,
Great Glen,
Leicestershire.
November 12.

From Mr W. H. L. Gordon

Sir, Sir Arthur Davies's Chinese proverb (November 7) could go one deeper. Teach a man to grow or rear fish and he can feed himself, his family and community

It is happening in the Third World, though not enough, and in Britain, in natural and dam waters.

Yours truly,
W H. L. GORDON,
Shenstone House,
Chalfont St Giles,
Buckinghamshire.
November 7

Elections in Nicaragua

From Dr V Bulmer-Thomas

Sir, The recent elections in Nicaragua (the first serious electoral contest in that country since 1932) require very careful interpretation, a task that was only partially fulfilled by your thoughtfull editorial on November 3

The elections have been denounced as a sham by the Reagan Administration. Yet, unlike the Panamanian elections in May, the Nicaraguan contest was not marred by fraud and, unlike the elections in El Salvador in March and Guatemala in July, no wing of the political spectrum was completely unrepresented. On the other hand, the advantages of the incumbent (the Sandinistas) were particularly strong owing to their control over the state apparatus which has been fashioned in their own image.

This control made the elections something less than the free and fair contest one can observe in Costa Rica, for example, every four years. Yet there is still much in the results from which one can draw encouragement.

First, the high participation rate (over 80 per cent) means that Nicaragua can be added to the list of countries in Central America where the overwhelming majority of people wish to resolve their problems peacefully through the ballot box.

Secondly, the margin of the Sandinistas' victory is such that the regime cannot be dismissed as strongly unpopular. The burden of proof to the contrary must now lie with those (Nicaraguans and others) who wish to overthrow the Sandinistas by force.

Thirdly, the performance of the centre-right anti-Sandinista parties (over 20 per cent of the popular vote) was, under the circumstances, highly creditable. Despite the current fashion for "dialogue" in Nicaragua and elsewhere, there can be no substitute for the institutionalisation of the legal opposition through congressional representation.

The Sandinistas may not be disposed to interpret the elections in this way They may feel that the abstention by certain parties (under pressure from the US Administration and elsewhere) gives them *the right to reverse the current apertura* and move towards a one-party state.

Such an interpretation would be a matter for regret. Since 1981 the US Administration has put intense pressure on the Nicaraguan regime, as a result of which the Sandinistas have modified a number of their policies. It would be far healthier for Nicaragua, and the world as a whole, if these changes were achieved through pressure by the internal opposition.

If the election results increase the opposition's ability to exercise such influence (as is surely the case), then the process will have been proved worth while and those who counselled abstention or who denounced the elections months in advance will have been guilty of a grave misjudgment.

Yours faithfully,
VICTOR BULMER-THOMAS
Queen Mary College,
Department of Economics,
Mile End Road, E1.
November 6.

Not a 'failed hybrid'

From the Director of the South Bank Polytechnic

Sir, Your correspondent David Walker, in his profile of Sir Henry Chilver (November 8), dismissively refers to the polytechnics as failed hybrids. Why does your newspaper give credence to this nonsense?

South Bank Polytechnic is the largest technological institution in the UK in terms of numbers of students doing engineering and technology. The Government, even at a time of serious cuts in education, has awarded South Bank 11 new posts in information technology. We were also one of the few British institutions to obtain substantial funds from the European ESPRIT programme.

The Prudential, in a joint venture with us, are building 110,000 sq ft of hi-tech business units linked to our site at the Elephant and Castle in London. This "Technopark" opens early in the new year.

I could go on with many more examples; is this a picture of a "failed hybrid"?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN BEISHON, Director,
Polytechnic of the South Bank,
Borough Road, SE1.
November 9.

Slow on the uptake

From Mrs Penelope Sherwood

Sir, Re British Telecom, Mr M. W. Reid (November 7) has got a wrong number. Those members of the public who are buying British Telecom shares are paying those members of the public who are not buying any shares for their share.

Yours faithfully,
PENELOPE SHERWOOD,
Arundel Lodge,
271 Swakeleys Road,
Ickenham,
Uxbridge,
Middlesex.
November 7.

Safeguarding the house and home

From the Reverend R. G. N. Plant

Sir, I had always assumed that law and order and justice were part and parcel of the same concept; I have recently been proved sadly wrong.

Last week a group of squatters calling themselves "the Convoy" waited until one of my parishioners was out shopping and then proceeded to take over his house. They did not use any violence and said that they would allow him to share occupancy of the house with them!

Despite the persuasion of the police, local residents and myself, the intruders refused to move.

Clearly a lack of justice.

The problem was compounded by the fact that my parishioner was an Asian and the other members of his family, quite rightly incensed, were ready to bring in many of their compatriots and sort out the matter by forcibly evicting the squatters.

A great deal of tact and diplomacy on the part of the police, local residents and myself prevented this, but throughout the period there was the very real and probable risk of violence and bloodshed.

Almost a lack of order.

It was only through the efficiency and single-mindedness of a Leeds solicitor, plus a good deal of badgering on the part of many of us, plus the abridgement of court hearings, that the matter was heard in court very speedily, and after three and a half days my parishioner had his house back again.

Surely, where there is such a clear action on the part of squatters, some thought must be given to it being a criminal offence and the police being allowed to apply for a magistrate's warrant to evict the intruders as speedily as possible.

Failure to do this can only lead to increasing damage in community relations and a very real suspicion and fear in inner-city areas such as this.

Yours faithfully,
R. G. N. PLANT,
Armley Vicarage,
Wesley Road,
Leeds.
November 7.

VAT on publications

From Mrs Barbara Castle, MEP for Greater Manchester West (Labour)

Sir, Dr Owen has struck a brave attitude over the proposed imposition of VAT on newspapers. "I will oppose it with all the strength of my position", he is reported in your paper (November 8) as having said.

But how did he use the strength of his position as leader of the Alliance in the Euro elections last June? His party led the campaign for economic and monetary union.

Although he is personally cooler than many of his colleagues, particularly the Liberals, on European Union, it remains the case that tax harmonisation, including the removal of zero VAT rating, is part of the steady pressure for greater European integration and of the campaign to remove all barriers to trade, in both of which he believes.

Can we have a clear statement from the Alliance that they are against VAT on food and all other essentials as well as newspapers and books? No fudge or mudge, please!

Yours, etc,
BARBARA CASTLE,
2 Queen Anne's Gate, SW1.
November 9.

From Mr P J. Allery

Sir, May I suggest that the only people morally entitled to protest about the imposition of VAT on books are those who voted against entry into the Common Market. EEC supporters, on the other hand, having willed the end must accept the logic of intending the means, i.e., coming in line with the rest of the Community as regards tax on knowledge.

Yours truly,
P. J. ALLERY,
55 Crystal Palace Road, SE22.
November 10.

Fair exchange

From Mr Peter Dingley

Sir, With respect, Mr Duncan, of American Express (November 9) has missed the point. Americans coming to this country will find that dollar, as well as sterling travellers' cheques are accepted by all banks, most hotels, and many shops, including my own.

Why doesn't it work the other way round?

Yours truly,
PETER DINGLEY
Peter Dingley Gallery,
8 Chapel Street,
Stratford-upon-Avon,
Warwickshire.
November 9

Nominal changes

From Miss Martha Greenhow

Sir, Further to Lambeth Council's decision to rename Rhodesia Road "Zimbabwe Road", it is clear that other London place names need cleaning up to concord more with the moral and political climate of today's society

May I suggest that Birdcage Walk be changed to RSPB Flyover; Blackheath to Ethnic Minority Heath; Grand Union Canal to NUM Water; Cheapside to Anti-inflation Drive (it is unfair to expose consumers to a term which no longer has economic relevance); and lastly Marlborough Street, Government Health Warning Road (dead end).

Nineteen eighty-four would seem to be an excellent year in which to put forward these alterations.

Yours sincerely,
MARTHA GREENHOW,
Mill House,
Otterton,
Budleigh Salterton,
Devon.
November 12.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
November 15: The Queen held an investiture at Buckingham Palace this morning.

The Lord Maclean (Lord Chamberlain) had an audience of Her Majesty and presented an address from the House of Lords to which The Queen was graciously pleased to make reply.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh this afternoon visited the College of Arms to mark its Quincentenary.

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness were received upon arrival by Sir Colin Cole (Garter King of Arms) and the Duke of Norfolk (Earl Marshal).

The Marchioness of Abergavenny, Sir William Heseltine, and Major Hugh Lindsay were in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh this morning chaired the Design Council Selection Committee for The Duke of Edinburgh's Designer's Prize, at the Design Centre, Haymarket, London SW1.

Brigadier Clive Robertson was in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh, President of World Wildlife Fund International this evening attended a dinner in aid of World Wildlife Fund United Kingdom hosted by Henderson Administration at Fishmongers' Hall, London EC4.

His Royal Highness, attended by Mr Brian McGrath, was received on arrival by the Prime Warden of Fishmongers' Hall (the Viscount Leverhulme).

CLARENCE HOUSE
November 15: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother this afternoon visited the Royal College of Music and presented Certificates to Fellows and Awards to Senior Students.

Lady Angela Oswald and Sir Alastair Aird were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
November 15: The Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall, this morning presided at a meeting of Duchy Land Stewards at 10 Buckingham Gate, London SW1.

The Prince of Wales, President, The Royal College of Music Appeal, this afternoon accompanied Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, President, The Royal College of Music, at the President's Concert at the Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Road, London SW7.

The Hon Edward Adeane was in attendance.

The Princess of Wales this morning named P & O's new cruise liner Royal Princess at Southampton.

Her Royal Highness, attended by Miss Anne Beckwith-Smith, Mr Victor Chapman, and Lieutenant-Commander Peter Eberle, RN, travelled in the Royal Train.

KENSINGTON PALACE
November 15: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon this afternoon presented Long Service Badges to Queen's Nurses of The Queen's Nursing Institute at Merchant Taylors' Hall.

The Hon Mrs Wills was in attendance.

Her Royal Highness was present this evening at a Gala Dinner held at the Grosvenor House Hotel in connexion with the celebrations of the Miss World Contest, in aid of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, of which The Princess is President.

Mrs Jane Stevens was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
November 15: Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, as Patron, this evening presented prizes to the winners of the Brighter Kensington and Chelsea Scheme at The Town Hall, Kensington, London W8.

Mrs Michael Harvey was in attendance.

The Duke of Gloucester, Colonel-in-Chief, The Gloucestershire Regiment, this morning received Lieutenant-Colonel P. R. Rostron on relinquishing the appointment of Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion The Gloucestershire Regiment.

In the evening His Royal Highness presented the International Building Press Journalism Awards at the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, London SW1.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Simon Bland was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE,
ST JAMES'S PALACE
November 15: The Duke of Kent, Vice-Chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board, this morning visited Twyford Plant Laboratories at Glastonbury, Somerset.

His Royal Highness, who travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight, was attended by Captain Charles Blount.

The Duchess of Kent, as Honorary Colonel of the Yorkshire Volunteers, today received Colonel Christopher Tattersall on his assuming the appointment of Regimental Colonel and Colonel Michael Wilson on his relinquishing the appointment. Lieutenant-Colonel Simon Hill was also received on his assuming command of the 3rd Battalion.

Her Royal Highness, Patron of the Samaritans, this evening attended the Samaritans Ball at Harrods.

Mrs Peter Wilmot-Sitwell was in attendance.

Princess Alexandra and the Hon Angus Ogilvy will visit St Moritz, Switzerland, from February 1 to 4, 1985, for the celebrations to mark the centenary of the Cresta Run.

The Duke and Duchess of Kent will attend the British Red Cross film premiere, *The Killing Fields*, November 23.

The Duchess of Kent will open the World Travel Market 1984 at Olympia on November 28.

The Duke and Duchess of Kent will dine at the Independent Television News studio on December 6.

The Duchess of Gloucester will present the prizes at *The Standard* Film Awards ceremony at the Inn on the Park on November 18.

The Duke of Gloucester will open the Carlisle City Centre Redevelopment on November 19.

Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, will open the sixth form centre at the Dame Alice Harpur School, Bedford on November 21.

Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, will attend a concert at St James's Palace given in aid of The Order of St John, on November 22.

The Duchess of Gloucester, chief patron, Women Caring Trust, will attend the seventeenth Lords v Commons charity swim at the Royal Automobile Club on November 26.

A service of thanksgiving for the life of the Hon Sir Anthony Berry, MP, will be held at St Margaret's Church, Westminster, at noon on Wednesday, December 5.

Admittance will be strictly by ticket only. Applications for tickets should be made in writing to the Chapter Clerk, 20 Deans Yard, London SW1, by Friday, November 23. Tickets will be posted on November 28. Please send an addressed envelope.

A memorial service for G. W. (Bill) Mackworth-Young will be held at noon on Friday, December 7, at St Margaret's, Westminster.



Princess Alexandra, who leaves today with her husband Mr Angus Ogilvy, for a week-long visit to Mexico, at the invitation of President Miguel de la Madrid. She will attend celebrations for the fortieth anniversary of the British Council in Mexico (Photograph: Anthony Crickmay).

Forthcoming marriages

The Hon N. J. Boscawen and Miss V. M. R. Beare
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, second son of Viscount and Viscountess Falmouth, of Tregothnan, Truro, Cornwall, and Virginia, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Robin Beare, of Scraggs Farm, Cowden, Kent.

Dr S. R. F. Price and Miss L. F. Nixon
The engagement is announced between Simon, son of the late Right Rev S. H. Price and Mrs P. M. Price, of Sheffield, and Lucia, daughter of Captain C. P. Nixon and Mrs H. Nixon, of Ottawa.

Mr A. G. Blacklee and Miss J. M. Clough
The engagement is announced between Andrew Gimson, younger son of Mr and Mrs F. P. Blacklee, of East Haddon, Northants, and Jillian Mary, only daughter of Dr and Mrs J. H. H. Clough, of London, NW11.

Mr P. R. Bouverat and Miss N. J. Garner
The engagement is announced between Philip, younger son of Mr and Mrs R. G. Bouverat, of Aston Cantlow, Warwickshire, and Nonie, second daughter of Mr and Mrs A. J. Garner, of Iverna Court, Kensington W8.

Lieutenant R. A. Dobson, RN and Miss E. L. Rose
The engagement is announced between Richard, third son of Mr and Mrs Frank Dobson, of Goose Green, West Harting, and Emma, elder daughter of Commodore and Mrs Alec Rose, of Tilmore Croft, Petersfield, Hampshire.

Mr M. Fitzgeorge-Parker and Miss A. M. Thornton
The engagement is announced between Mark, only son of Major T. B. Fitzgeorge-Parker, MC, of Stow-on-the-Wold, and Mrs C. V. Booth-Jones, of Monkton Deverill, and Ann, second daughter of Brigadier J. M. C. Thornton, OBE, MC, of Emsworth, and the late Mrs Thornton.

Mr M. M. H. Gross and Mlle D. Beissah
The engagement is announced between Michael, son of Mr and Mrs Paul Gross, of London, and Danielle, youngest daughter of Mme Edith Beissah and the late M David Beissah, of Geneva.

Captain G. D. S. Lowsley-Williams and Miss L. J. Wesson
The engagement is announced between Captain George David Savile Lowsley-Williams, The Royal Hussars (PWO), son of Colonel and Mrs David Lowsley-Williams, of Chavenage, Tetbury, Gloucestershire, and Lucinda Jane, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Wesson, of The Orchards, Whitchurch, Hampshire.

Mr P. H. Gross and Miss R. M. Cullen
The engagement is announced between Peter Henry, son of Mr and Mrs S. L. Gross, of Cape Town, South Africa, and Ruth Mary, eldest daughter of Mrs P. B. Cullen, of Prince of Wales Drive, London, SW11.

Mr D. H. Spiller and Dr U. Stene
The engagement is announced between David, only son of Mr and Mrs A. L. Spiller, of Purley, Surrey and Unni, daughter of Mr and Mrs M. Stene, of Arendal, Norway.

Captain J. G. Mullin, RE, and Miss L. E. Raper, QARANC
The engagement is announced between Jonathan Graeme, only son of Professor and Mrs J. W. Mullin, of Ickenham, Middlesex, and Lynne Elizabeth, only daughter of Mr and Mrs C. F. Raper, of North Duffield, North Yorkshire.

Dr D. P. Ryan and Miss A. Knowles
The engagement is announced between Dermot, eldest son of Dr and Mrs J. D. Ryan of Innisfree, Brimington, Chesterfield, and Angelina, second daughter of Mr and Mrs C. Knowles, Highwood Lodge, Dunkirk, Faversham, Kent.

Mr J. O. Tannett and Mrs L. A. Patton-Morgan
The engagement is announced between Jack Owen, son of the late Owen and Helen Tannett, and Loree Ann Patton-Morgan. The marriage will take place in Denver, Colorado, United States, on December 21, 1984.

Mr P. Willcox and Miss F. D. Cottle
The engagement is announced between Peter, son of Mr and Mrs Robert Willcox, of Emery Down, Hampshire, and Fiona, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Alan Cottle, of Bramley, Surrey.

Marriage

Mr P. J. Drury and Miss C. Langrishe
The marriage took place quietly in London on November 15, between Mr Patrick Drury, of London, and Miss Caroline Langrishe, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Patrick Langrishe, of Sellindge, Kent.

Memorial service

Mr L. Rossiter
A memorial service for Mr Leonard Rossiter was held yesterday at the Actors' Church, St Paul's, Covent Garden. The Rev Michael Hurst-Bannister, senior chaplain, Actors' Church Union, officiated. Miss Isabel Dean read from the works of Canon Henry Scott Holland and Mr James Grout read T. S. Eliot's poen "Gus the Theatrical Cat". Mr Jonathan Lynn gave an address. Among those present were:

Mrs Rossiter (widow), Mrs Joan Rossiter (sister-in-law), Mr and Mrs Cyril Griffiths (brother-in-law and sister-in-law), Mrs Joyce Kaufmann (mother-in-law), Mrs Marie Stamp, Mrs Elizabeth Newman, Mr Matthew Griffiths, Mr Arthur Watson, Mr Maurice Kaufmann, Mr Peter Kaufmann, Mrs Josephine Small, Mr Frank Rossiter.

Lady Gordon-Walker, Mr William Franklyn (Malcolm Sargent Cancer Fund for Children) and Mrs Franklyn, Mr Peter Plouviez, Mr and Mrs John Stride, Miss Gemma Craven, Mr Michael Frayn, Mr Derek Nimmo, Mr Michael Codron, Mr Donald Churchill and Miss Pauline Yates, Mr Michael Blakemore, Miss Dinah Sheridan, Mr Jack Merivale, Mr George Sewell, Miss Molly Weir, Mr John Wells, Mr Ned Sherrin, Mr Ray Cooney, Mr Jeremy Kemp, Miss Thelma Holt, Mr Ray Barrett, Miss Verity Lambert, Mr Dinsdale Landen, Mrs Jonathan Lynn, Mrs Richard Briers, Mrs Geoffrey Palmer, Mrs Peter Bowles.

Mr David Hope (marketing manager, Cinzano UK), Mr Milton John (British Actors' Equity Association), with Mr Peter Bennett (representing the council), Mrs June Hutchison (Shaftesbury Theatre Club), Mr J J Smith (British Film Institute), Miss Jackie Hardy (Theatre of Comedy), Miss Paddy Flawn (Concert Artistes Association), Mr Richard Coombs (Guildhall School of Music and Drama, Bradford) and Mrs Coombs, Mrs Hugh Smith (Catholic Stage Guild), Mr F Cyril Burke-Turner (Shakespeare Club, Stratford on Avon), Mr Rodney West (Bristol Old Vic Company), Miss Julia Bankover (Yorkshire Television), Mr Ken Lawrence ("Kensington and Chelsea Times"), Mr C Grandage (Association of Lancastrians in London), Mr Martin Tickner, Mr Michael Anderson, Mr Gene Sandys, Mr Julian Courtenay, Mr and Mrs Norman Mitchell.

Mr and Mrs Gerald Sim, Mr John Horsley, Mr Alan Foss, Mr Malcolm Drury, Mr Peter Dennis and Miss Diane Mercer, Mr Patrick O'Connell, Mr David John, Mr Daniel Clucas, Mr John Channell Mills, Mr John Dicks, Mr Robin Parkinson, Mr Derek Banfield and Miss Rosemary Martin.

Church news

Resignations and Retirements
The Rev T E Louden, Rector of Niton St John and Chale St Andrew, and Priest-in-charge of St Mary and St Rhadagunde, Whitwell, diocese of Portsmouth, to resign as Priest-in-charge of St Mary and St Rhadagunde, Whitwell, and remain as Rector, Niton St John and Chale St Andrew.
Canon G W Whitlock, Vicar of Diddington with Little Paxton, and Rector of Southoe with Hail Weston, Diocese of Ely, to resign on Nov 15.

The Rev D R Osborne, Assistant Curate of Penkridge, diocese of Lichfield, to be Rector of Longdon-upon-Tern, Rodington, Uppington and Wrockwardine, same diocese.
The Rev K J Phillips, Vicar of St Christopher's, Lea, Preston, diocese of Blackburn, and a member of the Blackburn Diocesan Advisory Committee for the Care of Churches, to be Priest-in-charge of Priors Hardwick, Priors Marston and Wormleighton, diocese of Coventry, and Secretary to the Coventry Diocesan Advisory Committee for the Care of Churches.
The Rev Dr D P Pym, recently a Royal Navy Chaplain, to be Rector of Avon Dassett with Farnborough and Fenny Compton, diocese of Coventry.
The Rev P L Sear, Assistant Curate of Caversham, diocese of Oxford, to be Vicar of St Mary, Thatcham, same diocese.
The Rev J T Smith, Assistant General Secretary of the Red Triangle Club and Public Preacher in diocese of Chelmsford, to be Rector of Tendring with Beaumont-cum-Moze and Little Bentley, same diocese.

Latest wills

Earl of Buchan, of Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire, left estate valued at £266,393 net.

Viscount Allenby, of Parsonage Farm, Westwell, Ashford, Kent, left estate valued at £121,018 net.

Sir Joseph Meredith Whittaker, of High Dalby House, Thornton Dale, near Pickering, North Yorkshire, chairman and editor-in-chief of Scarborough and District Newspapers and a former chairman of the executive council of the Association of County Councils, left estate valued at £160,396 net.

Mr Raymond Harry Oppenheimer, of White Waltham, Berkshire, former president of the English Golf Union, left estate valued at £846,075 net.

Mrs Freda Gwendoline Higgs, of Dorridge, West Midlands, left estate valued at £1,927,647 net.

Mrs Violet Blanche Farrer, of Alveston, Stratford-upon-Avon, left estate valued at £502,628 net. Among the bequests were the sale proceeds of her jewelry to the Regional Cancer Registry, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Edgbaston, Birmingham, £10,000 to the Royal Midland Counties Home for Incurables, Castel Froma, Leamington Spa, £2,000 each to Alveston Parish Curch and the Parish of St Bartholomew, Edgbaston, £20,000 each to the Salvation Army and St John Ambulance Brigade, Stratford-upon-Avon branch.

Mrs Jessie Louise Woltmann, of Harborne, Birmingham, left estate valued at £105,264 net. She left £2,500 to relatives and the residue to the Wilmcote Charitrust, to augment the Paul and Henry Woltmann Memorial Fund.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid):
Bentley, Mr Wilfred, of Coalville, Leicestershire £223,246
Cooper, Mrs Pamela Mary, of Swindon £210,175
Moore Danial, Mr Jonathan Francis, of Andorra, late of Burnham, Buckshire, estate in England and Wales £224,318
Edwards, Mrs Elizabeth Kathleen, of Chelsea Park Gardens, London £256,279
Hall, Mrs Marjorie Violet, of Godalming, Surrey £210,985
Jones, Mr Gordon Frank, of Bluntingdon, Chaddesley Corbett, Worcestershire £252,593
Pierce, Auriol Clare Acton, of Gomshall, Surrey £199,555
Reid, Mr Graham Barr, of Oulton Broad, Suffolk £244,445
Webber, Mrs Lilian Bessie, of Exmouth £210,328

Oscar at Maxim's

A recital was given by Mr Peter Baldwin at Maxim's de Paris Restaurant last night in aid of Action Research for the Crippled Child. Lady Granville of Eye was chairman of the committee for the evening.

Samaritans ball

The Duchess of Kent was present at a ball held at Harrods yesterday in aid of the Samaritans. She was recieved by Baroness Phillips, Lord-Lieutenant of Greater London.

Birthdays today

Mr Willie Carson, 42; the Right Rev Dr C. R. Claxton, 81; Air Vice-Marshal Sir Conrad Collier, 89; Canon H. J. Stuart, 58; Professor R. C. Sutcliffe, 80; Sir Edward Tomkins, 69; Sir John Wedgwood, 77; Professor B.A. Wortley, 77.

Correction

The name of Mr N. G. Fleeson was omitted from the list of students completing the Law Society final examination, published on Wednesday. He passed with first class honours.

Award for team who raised Mary Rose

By Kenneth Gosling

The team that raised the Tudor warship Mary Rose two years ago shares with two schoolboys from the west country this year's British Archaeological Awards, presented at the British Museum in London yesterday by Lord Montagu of Beaulieu.

Mr Victor Marchant, the awards' general secretary, said: "I think it is significant that the winners range from two youngsters to an internationally famous project like raising the Mary Rose, as it shows the wide appeal of archaeology and how it can be enjoyed at different levels."

The two boys, Robert Waterhouse, aged 15, of Kingsbridge, Devon, and Daniel Jones, aged 10, from Bristol, win the Young Archaeologist of the Year Award in their respective age groups; their brief was to invent an archaeological game. Robert's prize is an archaeological holiday and Daniel's a book token.

The Mary Rose Trust collected jointly with Mr Ian Skipper the Legal and General Silver Trowel Trophy for initiative in archaeology. Mr Skipper, a businessmen, also won the *Illustrated London News* award for sponsorship of archaeolgy, for his work with the York Archaeological Trust and the creation in that city of the Jorvik Viking Centre.

Other winners were:
Mr Donald Spratt, of Skipton, Yorks, the Pitt-Rivers award for the best project by an individual: he produced a report on the prehistory and Roman archaeology of north-east Yorkshire.
Mr Christopher Chippindale, the Richard Colt-Hoare award for the best book: a mature student at Cambridge, Mr Chippindale wrote Stonehenge Complete.
Cleveland County Council's archaeological section, led by Mr Blaise Vyner, the Country Life award for best project by a professional team.
The awards are sponsored by Country Life magazine, the Illustrated London News, the Robert Kiln Trust, Legal & General Assurance Society, the Sunday Telegraph and the David Thomson Trust.

Luncheons

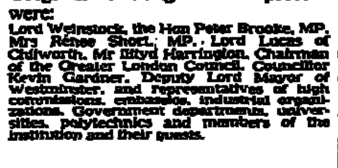
Premier of Bermuda
The Premier of Bermuda, Mr John W. Swan, was host at a luncheon held at Merchant Taylors' Hall on Wednesday to commemorate the 375th anniversary of the founding of Bermuda. Those present included:
The Governor of Bermuda, Viscount Dunrossil, the Lord Mayor of London, Sir Allan Traill, Lord Lucas of Chilworth, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Trade and Industry; Viscount Rothermere, the Right Rev Gerald Ellison, the Hon Sir Peter Ramsbotham, Sir William Harding, Sir Arthur Bryan, Sir Eric Sharp, Mr Walter Wallace, Lieutenant-Colonel Michael Darling, Mr P A S Blomfield, Mr Henry Keswick, Mr Stuart Paton, Mr Henry Lambert, Mr P E Dawson, Mr Arnold Francis, Mr Donald Lines and Mr Robert Dunlop.

Northumberland Lieutenancy
The Northumberland deputy lieutenants entertained at luncheon in Newcastle upon Tyne on Friday, November 9, the Duke of Northumberland, to mark his retirement and in honour of his twenty-eight years as Lord Lieutenant of the county. The Lord Lieutenant Viscount Ridley, presided.

Dinners

Corporation of London
The Corporation of London gave a dinner at the Mansion House last night in honour of the President of Finland and Mrs Koivisto. The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, accompanied by the Sheriffs and their ladies, received the guests. Among those present were:
Mr Paavo Vayrynen, the Finnish Ambassador and Mrs Pastinen, Mrs Anneli Lindblom, Mr Ake Wihtol, Dr Klaus Tornudd, Mr Olli Auero, Mr Jaakko Kalela, Colonel Veikko Vesterinen, Mr Seppo Tiitinen, Mr Leif Blomqvist, Mr Alec Aalto, Mr Arto Mansala, Lieutenant-Colonel Juha Engstrom, Mr Charles Murto, the Danish Ambassador and Mrs Dahlgaard, the Austrian Ambassador and Frau Thomas, the Norwegian Ambassador and Mrs Busch, the Swedish Ambassador and Mrs Leifland, the Swiss Ambassador and Mme Pictet.
Viscount and Viscountess Rothermere, Lord and Lady Auckland, Viscount Craigavon, Sir Bernard and the Hon Lady Waley-Cohen, Sir Jeremy and Lady Morse, Sir Anthony and Lady Rawlinson, Sir Anthony Kershaw, MP, and Lady Kershaw.
Sir Donald and Lady Barron, Sir John and Lady Tooley, Sir David and Lady Pryke, Sir Ernest and Lady Harrison, Sir Thomas and Lady Risk, the Hon Sir John Baring.
Members of Parliament, members of the Finnish Embassy, and representatives of the Anglo-Finnish commercial and cultural interests, the Finnish community in London and the Civil Service, aldermen, common councilmen and officers of the Corporation of London and their ladies.

HM Government
Mr Timothy Renton, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host yesterday at a dinner at Lancaster House, given in honour of members of the Joint Anglo-German Koenigswinter Steering Committee.



Institution of Mechanical Engineers
Dr W Rizk, President of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, was in the chair at the annual dinner of the institution which was held last night at the Hilton International Hotel. The principal speakers were Sir Walter Marshall and Lord Gregson. Among those present were:
Lord Weinstock, the Hon Peter Brooke, MP, Mrs Renee Short, MP, Lord Lucas of Chilworth, Mr Illtyd Harrington, Chairman of the Greater London Council, Councillor Kevin Gardner, Deputy Lord Mayor of Westminster, and representatives of high commissions, embassies, industrial organizations, Government departments, universities, polytechnics and members of the institution and their guests.

United Oxford and Cambridge University Club
Sir Peter Parker, Chairman of the British Institute of Management, was the guest of honour at a discussion dinner held last night at the United Oxford and Cambridge University Club.

Mr Michael A. Kaye, chairman, and Mrs Kaye received the guests among whom were General Sir John Stanier, Chief of the General Staff, and General Sir Hugh Beach, Warden of St. George's House, Windsor Castle. The subject of the discussion was "Leadership in Industry".

Anglo-Belgian Society
The Anglo-Belgian Society held its annual dinner last night at the Anglo-Belgian Club. The Hon Sir Clive Bossom, Bt, president, was in the chair. The guests of honour were the Belgian Ambassador and Mme J. P. van Bellinghen and Major-General Sir Allan Adair, Bt, who was the principal speaker.

British Property Federation
Mr H. S. Axton, president, presided at a dinner given on Wednesday by the British Property Federation at Leeds Castle, Kent. The principal guest was Dr David Owen, MP.

New Scotland Yard
A reunion dinner of members of the Assistant Commissioners' Mess, New Scotland Yard, was held last night. Sir Kenneth Newman, Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, presided.

OBITUARY

DR ROBERT MacKENNA
Leading dermatologist

Dr Robert MacKenna FRCP, who died on November 12, was a well-known figure in British dermatology and was Consultant Dermatologist to St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, until his retirement in 1968.

Born in Liverpool in 1903 he early resolved to become a sailor and entered the Royal Navy as a Dartmouth cadet in 1917.

But after the First World War, his father exerted pressure on him to give up his naval career and train as a physician at Clare College, Cambridge, and at St Thomas's Hospital, London.

While a student in May 1926 he enrolled as a special constable.

His medical career continued at St Thomas's and St John's Hospitals in London until his return to Liverpool in 1928 to look after his ailing parents. He succeeded his father in private dermatological practice in Liverpool and at the Royal Southern Hospital, Liverpool.

While in Liverpool he commenced his literary career in medical subjects and wrote a number of standard dermatological texts including *Aids to Dermatology* and *Diseases of the Skin* as well as editing *Modern Trends in Dermatology*, which remained reference works for many years.

During the Second World War he served in the RAMC and at the War Office with the rank of Brigadier and was consultant in Dermatology to the British Army.

After the war he succeeded Dr A. C. Roxburgh as honorary dermatologist to St Barthlomew's Hospital, London and to St John's Hospital for Diseases of the Skin, London. While head of the department at Bart's, he became a hospital governor and later President of the British Association of Dermatologists and President of the Dermatology Section of the Royal Society of Medicine. His fame as a clinician, author and research dermatologist was world wide.

His patients loved him and it was his care of the individual as a whole rather than the therapy of the patients' skin which endeared him to them. He was a quiet spoken, sincere man, always ready to give advice and help and proud of the ability and opportunity given to him to become a healing physician.

He leaves his widow Margaret, and four children.

THE REV G. T. BELLHOUSE

The Rev G. T. Bellhouse who died on November 9 aged 85, was widely known as a preacher of singular power on both sides of the Border. He had been minister of St Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Eastbourne, from 1945 to 1972 and was Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of England in 1958.

Geoffrey Turner Bellhouse was born at Christchurch, New Zealand, in 1899, the son of a Methodist minister. After study at Knox College, Dunedin, he came to Scotland for his theological training at New College, Edinburgh. Thereafter he lived in Britain.

Something of a preaching prodigy as a young man, he leaped to a position in the first rank without the demand that he should serve any apprenticeship. Ordained and inducted to the ministry at Regent Square Church, Bloomsbury, at the age of twenty-seven and, at an age when many of his contemporaries in the Church of England were junior curates, he found himself in charge of Edward Irving's historic church.

The movement of residents out from the area was well advanced and the congregation doubtless felt that boldness might be justified. It was. The twelve years' ministry which Bellhouse exercised certainly prolonged the life of Regent Square as a central church which gathered a large and thoughtful congregation in which students and nurses formed a considerable proportion.

In 1938 he began a seven years' ministry in Westbourne Church, Glasgow, succeeding Dr Adam Burnet. The fame of Westbourne Church was fully maintained under Bellhouse, but he was probably not sorry when the call came from Eastbourne to succeed Dr James Reid. He had been happy in the Presbyterian Church of England, and for the rest of his life was to be identified with it, and its successor body, the United Reformed Church.

To succeed Reid was a heavy responsibility. He was one of the most famous and loved preachers of his day. Again, Eastbourne's virtual civilian evacuation in the war years meant that the famous congregation had to be considerably remade. Bellhouse rose to the task completely and his long ministry there was fully worthy of the succession.

After retirement from Eastbourne he exercised a valued part time ministry at Alfriston, Sussex, for six years.

Bellhouse was above all a preacher. His call to the moderatorship, which was primarily a recognition of this, led to his developing a deeper interest in the wider life of his Church. After that for some years he played a regular part in its committee work.

High office did not silence a certain Antipodean outspokenness not usually associated with the famous preachers of South Coast resorts.

PROF DONALD ROBERTSON

N. D. C. H. writes:
Professor Donald Robertson, a well-known specialist in the art of Pre-Columbian and Latin America, died in New Orleans on October 18 at the age of 65.

He was the author of *Mexican Manuscript Painting of the Early Colonial Schools*, the definitive study of Mexican Indian codices, and of *Pre-Columbian Architecture*. At the time of his death he was editing the Codex Tulane, an early colonial manuscript of the Mixtec people of Oaxaca.

Donald Robertson was born in Elizabeth, New Jersey, on May 12, 1919, took his doctorate at Yale, and taught in several American universities before joining Tulane University, New Orleans, in 1957. He was active as a scholar, contributing to the *Handbook of Middle American Indians* and the *Handbook of Latin American Studies*, and helping to organize several important conferences, including the Mesa Redonda de Palenque and the Tulane Symposia on the Art of Latin America.

He leaves a widow, Martha Browning Barton Robertson, and two children.

The Right Rev Richard George Clitherow Bishop Suffragan of Stafford from 1958 to 1974, has died at the age of 75.

He was born on October 1, 1909, and educated at Dulwich College, Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, and Wells Theological College. From 1936 to 1940 he was an assistant curate at St Augustine, Bermondsey, and from 1940 to 1946 a Chaplain to the Forces, when he was mentioned in dispatches. From 1946 to 1958 he was a Canon Residentiary of Guildford Cathedral.

Prince Moulay Hassan Ben El-Mehdi, governor of the central bank of Morocco and Ambassador in London from 1957 to 1965, died in Rabat on November 1 at the age of 73.

Science report

Aids could become more infectious

By A Special Correspondent

The fatal disease Aids, acquired immune deficiency syndrome, is changing and possibly getting more infectious, according to a leading European research scientist.

Professor Jean-Claude Chermanne, of the Institut Pasteur, Paris, said that it is now much easier to culture, the virus, called LAV in France and HTLV III in the United States, that causes Aids, than it was a year ago.

Samples taken from new patients repidly infect laboratory cell-lines. The infection of laboratory cells, necessary for experiments on the virus, was difficult to achieve in the past. But Professor Chermanne says he has not changed his techniques: "My impression is that the virus is changing", he said.

Influenza is also a changeable virus, which is why it is difficult to develop effective influenza vaccines. If the same is true for Aids, protection from the disease may be much further off than previously expected.

That is a rather serious prospect, as more and more people appear to have been infected with the virus. Among San Fransisco homosexuals, in whom Aids started, Professor Chermanne says, just 1 per cent of a bank of blood samples taken in 1978 show signs of exposure to the virus.

In 1981, the figure rises to 24 per cent, and in 1984, to 65 per cent. New York drug-users, who transmit the viruses by sharing contaminated hypodermic needles, show 85 per cent incidence. Few of them have developed Aids symptoms, which may mean either that some people are immune, or that the disease has a long, perhaps five-year, incubation time.

Other disquieting signs are detection of the virus in the saliva of Aids patients and a growing number of cases where the source of infection is unknown.

Of 221 cases diagnosed in France to mid-October, 63 (more than a quarter, consisting of 46 men and 17 women) had no obvious link with people normally considered to be most at risk of Aids.

Two cases of hospital staff contracting Aids without any contact with Aids patients have also been recorded in France, and hospital precautions are being stepped up.

Against that background, research on Aids is becoming increasingly important, and the principal American and European Aids groups now agree that their viruses (HTLV III and LAV) are virtually identical and that their research is, therefore, converging.

It seems the Aids agent is a retrovirus (a packet of RNA molecules wrapped in a protein coat, which are converted into DNA, and then inserted into the victim's chromosomes, directing the production of more virus); and that it specifically attacks a class of white blood cells, which form the body's defence mechanism against invaders, called T-helper cells.

Professor Chermanne adds that new virus "buds" on the surface of infected cells will make vaccine development difficult because resulting antibodies may themselves attack the budding T-cells and so inadvertently accelerate the progress of the disease. Nevertheless, the search for a vaccine continues on both sides of the Atlantic.

Meanwhile the Professor and his American colleagues are working to produce a simple and effective blood test to indicate Aids exposure. That would, at least, allow the elimination of Aids-infected patients from potential blood donors, and so halt Aids transmission via blood transfusion and the "factor-VIII" material given to haemophiliacs. In France, five people are believed to have contracted Aids via that route.



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THE TIMES
FINANCE AND INDUSTRY
Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Chancellor still talking down interest rates

A cut in base rates to help the British Telecom share sale along is still on the cards, assisted by some talking-down of rates by the Chancellor yesterday.

In answer to a parliamentary question, Mr Nigel Lawson said that "despite the miners' strike," and events in the US: "The level of interest rates in this country is no higher than it was at the last election, and indeed is set ot go lower."

The money markets, becalmed in the past couple of days by US deficit worries, woke up. The three-month interbank eased fractionally down to 9⅞-9$^{13}/_{16}$.

But so far this week, the Bank of England has refused to endorse a move to lower base rates. Today, a shortage of around £1 billion is expected in the money market, and optimistic dealers expect a cut in the Bank's dealing rates, to be followed by *a half point off* base rates, now 10 per cent, early next week.

On the day that the Governor of the Bank of England left for a week's visit to Russia, not too many secrets were being given away in the full money and banking *figures for October*.

Sterling M3 rose 0.3 per cent during the month, making an annualized increase of 9.3 per cent during the present target period. The corresponding figures for narrow money, M0, were 0.8 per cent and 6.1 per cent.

The bank lending figure of £2,130m remains something of an enigma. The figures only confirm earlier suspicions that very little of it was due to round-tripping. Net gilt sales during banking October totalled £880m and national savings £220m.

A better clue to the case for lower interest rates may be provided by yesterday's statistics on the real economy. Capital expenditure in the third quarter, £4,245m at 1980 prices, was virtually unchanged on the second quarter and has been flat through 1984. Stocks were also little changed.

The stockbroker Wood, Mackenzie has put these figures together with the date on consumer spending, exports and imports and come up with a "flash" estimate of third quarter expenditure gross domestic product. This, it argues, is up just 0.4 per cent on the previous quarter and only 1 per cent on a year earlier. Official gdp figures, based on the output measure, are due out on Monday and are expected to show no change in the third quarter.

If the Treasury's new growth forecasts are to be achieved, rates may have to be talked down rather louder.

Note of caution on City revolution

When the structure of City institutions is changing as rapidly as the framework in which they operate, the consequences of change are hard to predict. But as more parts of the jigsaw fall into place, it becomes increasingly apparent that changes now afoot will lead to a very different cultural environment.

This will be evident particularly in the degree and scale of risk which institutions will find themselves assuming and also in the changing nature of their relationships with other City institutions. The government securities market of the future will be a prime example of this.

Yesterday, Mr Gordon Pepper, of W. Greenwell delivered a paper to the Society of Investment Analysts giving virtually the first considered City reaction to the Bank of England's recent proposals. Mr Pepper has a number of reservations which boil down to two central themes.

First, he foresees a system bristling with potential conflicts of interest and has raised a number of important issues which need to be debated. Second, he questions the Bank of England's half-way house proposals on the relationship between gilt-edged market makers and discount brokers, an issue closely tied up with the future role of the Stock Exchange in the gilts market.

The Bank proposes allowing common parentage and elements of common management for discount houses and primary market-makers in the same group. But it wants them to be separately capitalized. Mr Pepper maintains that the present separation between the bill market and bond market is thoroughly artificial and preserving it would be wasteful of capital. He also shares the view that the present proposals unduly favour the discount market, and argues that one of the main reasons why the Bank will not allow the two roles to merge is because discount houses have no wish to come under the authority of the Stock Exchange, as it is proposed all primary market makers should.

Mr Pepper, whose views have changed since last May, no longer feels that the Stock Exchange need have much to do with the primary gilts market and concludes: "The industrial logic of merging the market in bills and bonds should be given priority over the gilt-edged market remaining within the Stock Exchange."

As for potential conflicts of interest, he sees these arising in a number of areas. One is where a financial group includes discretionary fund management and gilt-edged market-making, giving rise to the possibility of losses being transferred or profits diverted to the disadvantage of a client. There are strict rules about this in the US which in practice virtually rule out such in-house transactions and Mr Pepper says there is a strong case for keeping these two types of business separate.

Within the framework of the gilts market itself, there are numerous conflicts which could arise where either Stock Exchange Money Brokers or inter-dealer brokers have links with primary market-makers or perhaos broker-dealers. SEMBs and IDBs will both have access to highly sensitive confidential information about market-makers and their positions and Mr Pepper would like them to stay quite independent of the gilt edged market-makers.

However, there are already signs that some want to be involved in both. Security Pacific wants to have a half share in an IDB with Tullett & Tokyo and also own a primary market-maker and Mercantile House is known to have similar ideas.

Other money brokers such as Exco International and Charles Fulton, which is holding discussions on a possible association with the US IDB Cantor Fitzgerald, also have aspirations to be IDBs but have no wish to become involved as market-makers.

The Bank of England, meanwhile, is taking a relaxed "let the market decide" attitude to these kinds of potential conflicts. IDBs and SEMBs will have to convince the Bank that there is a broadly based demand for their services in the market before they receive the stamp of approval. So, if market-makers are worried about doing business with an IDB which is associated with another market-maker, there probably will not be a demonstrable demand for its services.

Oil profits soar as minister predicts rush for licences

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

The importance of the British oil industry to the economy was underlined by the announcement yesterday of increased profits from two leading oil companies, a report of record drilling activity and the announcement by the Government that the forthcoming round of new licences in the North Sea is likely to be oversubscribed.

Mr Alick Buchanan-Smith, the Energy Minister, who had expected to place up to 80 new offshore exploration licences with the oil companies, said last night in Aberdeen that the ninth licensing round, for which applications close on December 17, will be a success.

He said: "This confirms the international oil industry's long-term commitment to the UK. Although we will not know the complete picture until after the closing date. I am optimistic that the action we took to attract the companies to open up the deep water and frontier areas will pay off.

"The signs are that the ninth round will be a success. But our offshore industry cannot afford to sit back and wait for the orders to come in."

BP yesterday reported a replacement cost profit increase for the first nine months of this year of £943 million, up 30 per cent compared with the same period last year. Earnings in the third quarter of this year rose to £313 million compared with £239 million in the same period in 1983. Profits on oil exploration and production were little changed at £332 million compared with £328 million in the second quarter. The fall in the dollar oil price was cancelled by the rise in the value of the dollar against sterling.

BP Oil, the sector of the company which tefines and sells petrol and operates the company's tanker fleet, reversed previous results to record a £10 million profit. The chemical sector continued to improve. A loss of £66 million in the first nine months of last year has beenconverted to a profit of £60 million this year. The company's US subsidiary, Sohio, contributed profits of £202 million

Ultramar, one of Britain's leading independent oil companies, yesterday reported that its profits in the first nine months of this year rose to a record £186 million from £113.9 million in the same period last year. Turnover went up from £1,332.5 million to £2,330.8 million.

Unlike most other oil companies, however, Ultramar has not entirely benefited from the fall in sterling against the dollar adding to profits from oil priced in dollars. The strong dollar has resulted in a far greater fall in world natural gas prices than recent oil price cuts.

With Ultramar's gas production from Indonesia playing an important role in the company's fortunes this has had a significant effect of profits.

Of the profits announced by Ultramar, 50 per cent came from Indonesia, 35 per cent from the North Sea and the remainder from its refining, marketing and shipping operations in Canada, the US and Britain.

The independent energy adviser Gaffney Cline and Associates yesterday reported that oil drilling in the seas around Britain has reached record levels. The success rate is dropping, with one in seven holes drilled showing oil or gas, but this ratio still compares favourably with other areas.

Sir Hugh: shareholding reduced

Fraser hunt for share ownership

By Philip Robinson

The true ownership of more than 46 million shares in the House of Fraser – almost a third of the company – is now being sought by the store group's directors.

The shares are believed to be owned by Alfayed Investment and Trust Company which paid £138m almost 10 days ago for the stake held by Lonrho. However the shares are registered under NC Lombard Nominees Ltd at an address in Lombard Street.

Fraser is now wruting to all nominee holders using its rights under Section 74 of the Companies Act which allows it to freeze and disenfranchise any stakes where the beneficial owner refuses to declare itself. A freeze has already been placed on 1.2 million shares.

Significant share movements are shown by the Fraser share register around the time the NC Lombard Nominees Stake registered its holding.

Stakes of another nominee company, NC Head Office, which represents the holdings of the Fraser family trusts, went down by 1.4 million shares. Sir Hugh Fraser himself is shown to have reduced his holding between September 26 and November 5 by 525,000 shares to 175,920.

Meanwhile, the Office of Fair Trading is considering whether the purchase by Alfayed Investment and Trust should be recommended for investigation by the Monopolies Commission. The Commission is already considering whether the sale by Lonrho of its near 30 per cent stake means an end to the inquiry.

Iliffe family buys rest of BPM

By Alison Eadie

BPM Holdings, the publishing, retail and packaging group which owns the Birmingham Post and Mail and London and Westminster Newspapers, has accepted a £26.7m bid from Yattendon Holdings, a subsidiary of the private company Yattendon Investment Trust.

Yattendon is owned by Iliffe family trusts. The Iliffe family already has control of BPM, and has done since 1944, through its ownership of 97 per cent of the ordinary shares, 52 per cent of the "A" ordinary shares and 56 per cent of the "B" ordinary shares. This amounts to 81 per cent of the voting capital

Mr Robert Iliffe, chairman of BPM and a director of Yattendon, withdrew from BPM's board's deliberations after the offer was made.

advised by Hill Samuel, the merchant bank.

The offer is 670p cash for each ordinary share, 167.5p *cash for each "A" share and* 162.5 cash for each "B" share. The offer represents a 31 per cent increase on the price of the "A" shares, standing at 128p before news of the offer.

The board of BPM will declare an unchanged interim dividend of 7.5p net per ordinary share and 1.875p per "A" share and "B" share for the half-year to the end of December.

Yattendon is also in the newspaper business owning evening newspapers in Cambridge and Coventry. The BPM newspapers will continue to be run independently, acording to Mr G Battman, BPM's finance director.

BPM, which has had a stock market quote since 1947, will now go back to being a private company.

Guinness goes for health

Arthur Guinness, the brewing to retailing group, is expected to announce today the £3 million acquisition of Champneys, claimed to be Europe's premier name in Spa health resorts.

Champneys is located on two sites. Its head office is set in 170 acres of Hertfordshire woodland in Tring. Its other resort is Stobo Castle, south of Edinburgh. Champneys is being sold by BAT Industries.

The move by Guinness into the health and fitness market represents a significant development away from traditional business since Mr Ernest Saunders, chief executive, rescued the debt-ladden brewery group

New site for commodity exchange

By Judith Huntley, Commercial Property Correspondent

The London Commodity Exchange is about to sign the lease on its new home in St Katharine's Dock on the eastern edge of the City. The LCE and its member markets, including cocoa, coffee, sugar, oil, rubber and wool, will move to the 200,000 sq ft building in 1987.

The building was developed by Taylor Woodrow whose subsidiary, St Katharine-by-the-Tower, is responsible for the regeneration of the dock. It is believed that the LCE will occupy about half the building and will sublet the rest until it needs to expand.

Neither side would reveal what rent is being paid but judging by levels achieved on the neighbouring development in St Katharine's International House, it could be between £15 and £20 a sq ft.

The LCE and its members will move early in 1987 when the leases on existing space fall in.

The ned to have large market floors is of primary importance to the LCE and the new Commodity Exchange will be built with this in mind. The LCE will invest in a multi-million pound telecommunication system in the new building.

Index falls 12 points

Despite a relatively firm showing in gilts which saw shorts ahead by ⅛ point, equities retreated yesterday, ignoring a forecast by the Chancellor that interest rates were about to fall. Share prices, as measured by the FT 30-Share Index, dropped by 12.1 to 911.6. Dealers attributed the fall to nervous selling ahead of the Telecom flotation. Sterling slipped 5 points against the dollar to $1.2615.

Market report, page 20

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT-SE 100 Index: 1164.9 down 16.6
(high: 1179.5; low: 1164.7)
FT Index: 911.6 down 12.1
FT Gilts: 83.20 down 0.08
FT All Share: 552.11 down 5.99
Bargains: 21,657
Datastream USM Leaders Index: 105.49 down 0.04
New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average: (latest) 1207.15 up 0.22
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 11,301.62 down 19.28
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 1074.84 down 3.09

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling
Index 76.5 unchanged (range 76.6-76.4)
$1.2615 down 5pts
DM 3.7450 down 0.0050
FrF 11.4750 down 0.03
Yen 306.00 up 0.25
Dollar
Index 139.1 up 0.3
DM 2.9605 down 0.0065

NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling $1.2625
Dollar DM 2.9612

INTERNATIONAL
ECU £0.596344
SDR £0.795160

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 10
Finance houses base rate 1.1
Discount market loans week fixed 10⅛ - 10
3 month interbank 9⅞ – 9$^{13}/_{16}$

Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 9⅞ – 9¾
3 month DM 5⅞ - 5¾
3 month Fr F11$^{1}/_{16}$ - 11

US rates
Bank prime rate 11.75
Fed funds 9$^{9}/_{16}$
Treasury long bond 100$^{1}/_{32}$ - 100$^{5}/_{32}$.

ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period October 3 to November 6 1984, inclusive: 10.616 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am $345.35 pm $343.75
close $343.75 - 344.25 (£272.50 - 273)
New York (latest): $344.25
Krugerrand* (per coin):
$354 - 355.50 (£280.75 - 281.75)
Sovereigns* (new):
$81 - 82 (£64.25 - 65)
*Excludes VAT

NEWS IN BRIEF

Moves to save Argos Metals

Argos Metals, the platinum *trader placed in the hands of the* liquidator earlier this week, had a paid-up capital of only £20,000. But intensive efforts are being made to sell the company and it is expected that the Soviet Union, its biggest client, will continue to trade through it.

Mr Maurice Dorrington, the liquidator from the accountants Poppleton & Appleby, is trading a few futured contracts in order to keep the company alive.

● THIRD QUARTER results at BP showed a rise in replacement cost profits from £239m to £313m, bringing the nine months figure up to £943m (£723m). Earnings for the nine months on an historical cost basis are 57.6p (33.8p).

Tempus, page 20

● EARNINGS AT PLESSEY for the six months to September 28 declined from 6.90p to 6.63p, as pretax profits eased back to £80.7m (£80.9m). Sales rose from £589m to £619m.

Tempus, page 20

● KWIK SAVE DISCOUNT GROUP made pretax profits of £31.8 million in the year to August 25, against £27.4 million. The total dividend was increased by 17 per cent to 4.1 net.

Tempus, page 20

● ROYAL INSURANCE announced a sharp drop in nine month pretax profits from £63m last year to £7.5 million this year. The overall underwriting loss worsened from £163.4 million to £250.8 million.

Tempus, page 20

Liffe set to launch options contracts

By Michael Prest

The London International Financial Futures Exchange is expected to throw its weight behind the rapidly expanding options market by announcing soon that it will start trading options based on Liffe futures contracts next year.

In a speech delivered to Japanese and other members of Liffe in Tokyo yesterday, Mr Michael Jenkins, the exchange's chief executive, said: "One development during 1985 will be the introduction of option contracts. We have completed a major study of this area and we hope to announce our plans shortly."

Liffe sources in London said *last night that currency options,* an increasingly popular instrument, were the most attractive but their introduction presented technical problems. Liffe's currency futures contracts have been disappointing. The alternatives are options on Liffe's long gilt and three-month Eurodollar futures contracts.

Mr Jenkins also offered Liffe's help in setting up a financial futures market in *Tokyo. Trading in Japanese* bond futures is expected to start next year. Mr Jenkins added: "In the longer term, there is the possibility that Liffe may trade a Japanese bond contract

US considers 'teaching' Europe how to run its economies

From Bailey Morris, Washington

The Reagan Administration is considering as one of its new foreign policy objectives a programme to teach European governments how to encourage "supply-side" policies to bolster their economies.

Officials monitoring the policy talks at the White House this week said that several proposals designed to ease Europe's economic problems had been presented to the President as "new initiatives" to be adopted

Administration officials are concerned that high unemployment and "a lack of dynamism" in European economies will translate into political unrest and diminished security unless strong action is taken

Although they admit that the Administration's proposed remedies are "still pretty primitive", they said the important development likely to result from the meetings was a broad consensus that the US Government must take steps to improve Europe's economic health for strategic reasons.

However, there is lack of unanimity on how the US Government can do this, particularly among conservative and moderate advisers who disagree philosophically over proposed remedies.

On one side are the "hard line supplysiders" who believe that a "US model" of big tax cuts and sharp reductions in social programmes should be held up to European governments as the approach to adopt.

Moderates in the Administrations are pressing a less didactic approach centred on government spending reductions and incentive programmes for private industry.

The US Treasury officials stated before this week's meetings their concern that European governments are attempting to correct their unemployment problems with what they consider the wrong sorts of remedies.

A high-level Treasury official said: "To begin, governments are too involved at the expense of the private sector and, second, Europe is looking to high-tech industries to cure the problem despite the fact that our experience shows that service industries create jobs."

In closed door meetings with President Reagan, Administration officials have painted a gloomy picture of European economic growth which they said was hampered by social policies adopted a decade ago resulting in unacceptably high taxes, excessive government regulations and welfare statism.

"We face in Europe a future of economic stagnation, brought on by postwar trends towards greater welfare statism", a White House official said.

He said the focus in Europe should be on incentives for risk taking *in order to produce* involvement in what he called the "cutting edge industries".

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Flotation nerves depress shares

By Derek Pain and Pam Spooner

The Stock market became edgy yesterday ahead of the massive Biritsh Telecom share flotation. Both leading market indicators finished at their lowest level of the day.

The FT 30-share index closed with a 12.1 points fall to 911. and the much more broadly based "footsie" index ended at 1,164.9 points, down 16.6.

The swing from euphoria to depression was *due to the end* of the BT-inspired buying wave rather than to sustained selling.

Until the expected BT success is confirmed, many investors are expected to sit on the sidelines. The market expects a 130p price with 50p down and two 40p calls to be announced today. Talk is that the BT shares are likely to command a premium of up to 20p.

Poor half-year figures from **Plessey** lowered the shares 16p to 212p. Other electricals retreated.

The Chancellor's statement that he expected interest rates to fall soon came too late to offer much heart to the market which was already pondering predictions of higher transatlantic rates.

But **Rank Organisation** enjoyed its own type of "Telecom" *influence* with the shares 14p higher at 278p at one stage.

The office equipment to leisure group is busily selling off *chunks, aiming to concentrate* on the leisure industry. City men reckon the latest sale is Telecom Plus, a North American *associate* communications company involved in cellular radio in the US. Throgmorton Street talk is that Rank will *make a $50 million* (£63 million) profit on the sale of its 30 per cent in Telecom.

Mr Douglas Yates, finance *director* at *Rank*, would not comment, but he says: "We are following the policy laid down in the chairman's interim *statement*". *In brief, that* policy is "sell, sell, sell" on the non-leisure side.

Market rumours also lifted *the shares of* **United Scientific Holdings**, the armoured vehicles and optical equipment group. The price rose 8p too 226p as speculators chatted about a bid for USH from Vickers. Both sides strongly denied the suggestion, and Mr Peter Levene, chairman and managing director at USH, said: "It just looks like a further recovery in the share price after the recent strong markdown".

Full-year results are due from USH next month, and Mr Levene had lunch with the company brokers, Scrimgeour, Kemp-Gee, yesterday, but he said: "We did not talk about USH".

Allied-Lyons, the beer to food group, fell 2p to 171p yesterday. Fielding, Newson-Smith, the broker, expects interim profits, due this month, to emerge at £101 million, against £95 million last time. But analysts Mr Neil Scourse and Mr Tom Corran believe their year's projection of £219 million (£194.9 million) may be "a bit on the demanding side".

Government stocks had a quiet session, although the Chancellor's statement offered a late fillip with prices returning to overnight levels.

TI Group, strong on Wednesday, had another active day, at one time recording a 10p gain to 228p, as it appeared that some determined buyers lurked. The shares closed at 226p.

P & O, the shipping group, was another FT 30 constituent to buck the downward trend. It closed 3p higher at 302p as some market men took the view that any merger between P & O and Sterling Guarantee Trust would probably be effected by a P & O bid for SGT.

Smiths Industries suffered alongside *Plessey, falling* 28p to 634p. Smiths this week reported a near 35 per cent rise in full-year profits, but on a static turnover, and analysts are beginning to look askance at prospects there.

Quilter Goodison, the brokers, *believe* the current market rating for Smiths is too high, because sales in the group's two main areas of work, aerospace and medical equipment, are not growing strongly enough.

Racal also lost ground, dropping *14p to 268p. The* Plessey results, and vague market chat of acquisition activity at Racal, hurt the shares.

PSM International, the West Midlands engineering group, made a sound start, touching 151p from its 140p offer price.

Barham Group, the rapidly expanding services group, returned to market after its latest acquisition, a computerized typesetting business, at 310p before easing to 295p. Suspension price was 305p.

Confusion reigned for a time over shares of **Johnson Matthey**. At first the shares were marked higher. But then it transpired that they were being traded in their ex-preference rights form. The price was then cut to 113p, down 15p, and determined attempts were made *to unscramble earlier deals.*

Oils presented a scrappy appearance. **British Petroleum** closed unchanged at 493p following its third-quarter figures. At one time it slipped to 488p. But **Ultramar**, also with third-quarter results, failed to please and its shares retreated 13p to 238p. **Shell** lost 8p to 645p. **Anvil Petroleum** came in for speculative attention, gaining 7p to 55p.

Trafalgar House could be on the verge of selling its 196,000 sq ft office development, Plumtree Court, in London's Shoe Lane. The development, on the site of the building once occupied by the Standard *newspaper, is thought to have realized close to its £50 million asking price. Trafalgar shares fell 1p to 110p.*

Lex Service Group had another poor day after its brokers' lunch this week. The shares fell another 3p to 303p. Profit forecasts are now being downgraded – from about £54m to £49m.

Novo, the Danish insulin group, gained 75p to £19.75 after an analysts' meeting in New York.

Despite the price rise, the seminar appears to have left *some analysts uneasy about the* company's internal forecasting system.

Hambros Life Assurance closed 3p higher at 443p, after yesterday's excitement. **Charterhouse J. Rothchild**, which has nearly 25 per cent of HLA and is rumoured to want to sell its shareholding, fell 2p to 88p.

Lasmo was unchanged at 358p. The market is becoming more and more enticed by the company's exploration prospects. More than 260 wells may be drilled next year.

Staveley Industries fell 12p to 280p after its disappointing interim statement. But **M. J. Gleeson**, the civil engineering and building group, rose 12p to 205p after its 39 per cent profits advance.

LWT Holdings gained 7p to 275p on its 96 per cent profits *gain.*

Octopus Publishing continued to score from the realization of the advantages *which should flow from its £21* million takeover of **Websters Group**. The Octopus shares gained a further 35p to 840p.

Marks and Spencer fell 6p to 119p following a cautious brokers' circular.

The **Common Brothers** shipping group sank 23p to 90p on its operating losses and **Readon Smith "A"** lost 2½p to only 4p in sympathy.

The helicopter makers **Westland Aircraft** dipped 7p to 129p as market men heard criticism in the trade press of *the group's interests in California.* Mr Hugh Stewart, finance director at Westland, denied talk of a more than $20 million bill for taking on the business of Airspur at Los Angeles.

Westland has turned Airspur into a leasing company, and will be placing its W30 civil helicopters through it. This arrangement allows Westland effectively to own a California carrier without upsetting American sensibilities about foreign ownership of airlines.

On the investment trust pitches, **Anglo Scottish IT** announced an agreed bid from **Japan Assets Trust**. JAT is paying roughly *167.40p* for each Anglo share, with a mixture of cash, shares, warrants and loan stock. The market price of Anglo *dipped 1p to 157p* following the news, and JAT saw its price slip 3p to 58p.

The British and French *Channel Tunnel cash pledge* had the predictable influence on that odd company – the **Channel Tunnel Co.** Its shares *jumped 30p to 150p.*

Buyers of Monument Oil & Gas returned to the sidelines yesterday, leaving the shares 3p lower at 27p. Monument, the USM-listed oil interests of Minster Assets, has to be brought for cash until the shares are registered in mid-January. The need to pay real money seems to have put some investors off, and at the same time a few sellers are in evidence. Nevertheless, market men are waiting for the next move from Mr Paul Bristol, whose Bristol Oil & Minerals now holds 14.6 per cent of Monument, having coughed up cash for extra shares when dealings first began in Monument on Monday.

The appearance of G. M. **Firth at East Lancashire Paper**, fighting off a bid from **British Syphon**, continued to influence the shares. East Lancs rose 2p to 95p as Firth, headed by a former Slater Walker man, Mr Ian Wasserman, lifted its shareholding to 9.2 per cent.

Johnson Group Cleaners gained 4p to 448p after the takeover bid from **Nottingham Manufacturing** was given the government all clear. Two previous bids for Johnson have lapsed when they were referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Wade Potteries continued to show the benefits of its 53 per cent jump in profits, announced on Wednesday. The shares gained another 7p to 96p.

● **LEP GROUP:** Six months to June 30. Interim div 1.25p (0.8p). The final div will be dependent on the results for the year as a whole. *Figs in £000. Turnover* 42,840 (37,962). Pretax profit 3,110 (864). The board reports that benefits of the extensive reorganization in 1983 and the general improvement in world trade are now being reflected in results. This improvement in performance is spread throughout the group.

TEMPUS

Plessey wakes up to a changing world

Plessey's interim results look disappointing, but *arguably* the market should look through the raw statistics and concentrate on the accompanying *statement. It amounts* to a mood piece: whither Plessey in the late eighties?

The increasing volatility of markets looks to be the dominant theme of Sir John Clark's commemts as chairman. Hence total exports dropped by more than a fifth, and sales by overseas companies were down by nearly 5 per cent.

More significantly, the home market also sounds fairly difficult. The chairman aims a couple of sideswipes at the Chancellor's new fiscal regime. Phasing out capital allowances apparently destroyed the cable TV market overnight, losing Plessey £600,000 as it withdrew.

Relations wih British Telecom, which charges Plessey with perhaps a third of its *business* are *also changing* quite rapidly. On one hand, BT's impending floatation has led its management to adopt a *far* more conventional approach to the profit and loss statement. On the other, Plessey is now tooling up very rapidly, in working capital terms, *to begin* delivering its share of 1.7 million new System X lines by the year-end.

It seems reasonable to assume that returns from Plessey's involvement with BT will be less attractive than before. Hence, perhaps, the considerble prominence in the chairman's statement of the American market.

The *timing of the BT* flotation and Plessey's sudden realization that the British market is far too small to accommodate its growth plans may be coincidental. But the group hopes to become a big player in the biggest game in town, presumably reducing in the process its historic dependence on a major customer.

The market is sceptical. Plessey shares fell 10p to 218p on the results yesterday, continuing the marked underperformance of the last year. Perhaps Plessey is just too late to try to go it alone.

BP

BP's share price perked up a little yesterday on the back of its third-quarter figures, closing unchanged at 493p. This looks to be an ungenerous reaction to figures with a fair measure of attractive features.

Replacement cost profits, at £313 million, were £74 million up on the comparable 1983 period. BP Exporation's earnings were significantly higher, with the stronger dollar more than outweighing weaker crude prices.

Downstream, the European market was weak, as prices in *local* currencies rose, *while* demand was fairly static. But profits were £10 million, compared with market forecasts of *just breakeven.*

Chemicals, however, produced £9 million profits in the traditionally weak third-quarter, *rather* worse than seasonally warranted.

Sohio was hit by lower margins on oil products plus tariff pressures on its pipeline business, and an unchanged sterling outturn conceals a 17 per cent profits fall in dollar terms.

Analysts say the tax charge looks unnaturally low, but conversely BP is busy building its own cash mountain. In the last nine months cash balances have risen by £700 million.

Kwik Save Discount Group

Kwik Save's *16 per cent* pretax profit rise to £31.8 million was in line with expectations. Trading margins, after stripping out concession and other rental income, were unchanged at 3.7 per cent, indicating that it is not easy to squeeze more *out of* Kwik Save's limited range discount formula.

The 15 per cent sales rise contained volume gains of 7 to 7.5 per cent in Kwik Save stores less than two years old and 1.5 per cent gains in older stores. The new wines and *spirits* outlets contributed 1.4 per cent to the sales rise and the five new freezer centres 0.2 per cent.

Wines and spirits are selling well, but were not profitable last year. They are expected to break even this year.

Expansion plans continue and at least 35 more stores are planned this year against 40 last year. There will be no difficulty funding the growth with a cash pile of 22 million at the year-end against £19 million a year before. Capital spending is estimated at £20 million this year against £16 million last year.

With the increase in space, profits should continue to rise, even if margins remains hard to budge. Trading this year, however, has been flat and is only now beginning to pick up. The cheapness of fresh food, which *has helped* Tesco to increase its margins, was partly to blame. The miners' strike is also more significant for Kwik *Save than for more southerly* retailers.

The shares hit a high at 200p in March and have drifted back *since, losing 4p yesterday to* 170p. The prospective price-earnings ratio, assuming a somewhat ambitious £36 million is achieved, is just under 13 on 45 per cent tax. Cheap by sector standards, but the outlook is mixed.

Royal Insurance

Royal Insurance, the third composite insurer to announce *third quarter results this week*, has revealed pretax profits over the period plunging from £63 million last year to £7.5 *million. The figure is appalling,* yet in present insurance market conditions, much in line with expectations.

Although the US pretax losses almost doubled to £63 million compared with £33.4 million last year, this was rated by the market as a tolerable performance. The British result, with profits rising from £4.9 million to £9.7 million over the last three months, despite an overall nine-month fall, was better than expected.

The apparently severe fall in Canadian profits over the nine months to a loss of £9.1 million compared a £14.9 million profit last year, includes a £12 million addition to claims reserves forced on the company by changes in Canadian law.

Like Commercial Union, Royal regards an improvement in its US performance as an "overriding priority". The company is cutting staff and agents, and is refining its book of business.

It already claims success in raising premium costs worldwide without significant loss of business. Benefits will not show through until late next year, but with its shares at around 500p Royal looks on course for a healthy prospective yield of about 7.5 per cent.

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

Interim loss of £21,000 at J Foster

John Foster & Son, the Bradford cloth manufacturer and spinner, made interim pretax losses to the end of August of £21,000 against a profit of £20,000. Turnover rose his 19.6 per cent to £7.7 million.

This loss was due to the seasonal nature of the business and in the full-year profits are expected to be significantly higher than 1983 – 4's £603,000. The basic John Foster business and last year's acquisition of E A Matthews will see a turnover rise of 20 per cent and last month's acquisition of Pepper Lee from Illingworth Morris will boost sales further.

Order books for both d. rect and indirect exports, which account over 75 per cent of group turnover, continue to rise.

● **VALOR:** Pretax profit for 26 weeks to Sept 29 £2 million (£1.35 million). Turnover £40.92 million (£33.94 million). Interim dividend 1.235p (1.074p). Basic earnings per share 6.92p (6.08p); Fully diluted 6.57p (5.72p). The chairman Mr Michael Montague reported: "Trading is going well. We have no stock and we are on target for a very good second half." Noting that liquidity "is the best we have known it at this time of year", he added: "We continue to look carefully at further acquisition possibilities."

● **G. RUDDLE AND CO:** Six months to Sept 30. Interim div. 1.25p (same). Figs. in £000. Turnover 5,253 (4,627). Pre-tax profit 472 (420). The board states that the results should be viewed in the context of the highly competitive environment in which Ruddle works.

● **PREMIER CONSOLIDATED OILFIELDS:** Six months to Sept 30. Figs. in £000. T/over 4,264 (2,368). Pretax profit 2,374 (696). EPS 1.3p (0.19p).

INDUSTRY TODAY

High-tech Telecom is a thing of the future

By Jonathan Davis

As the flotation date nears, doubts linger about BT's ability to live up to its newly created image

Is British Telecom a high-tech growth business or a plodding utility? All year the question has been batted to and fro between Whitehall and the City in preparation for the final negotiations over how the corporation should be valued in next week's flotation. Today we will hear the verdict when the Government announces the terms on which the shares are to be sold.

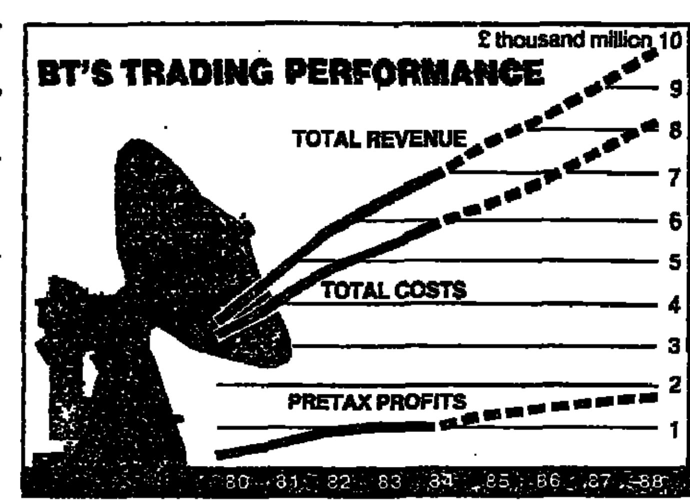
The broad details have already been well trailed. The 3,012 million shares on offer are likely to be sold at just under 130p each, valuing the business as a whole at about £7,700m. For investors, the shares will be offering a dividend yield of between 7 and 7½ per cent. They are being sold at about nine times BT's expected earnings in the current year.

In the City every number tells a story. In this case what the yield and the price-earnings ratio are saying is that BT is more than a utility – but not yet that much more. For all its satellite dishes and instant communications links with New York money dealing rooms – two high-tech images highlighted in the upbeat "power behind the button" advertising campaign earlier this year – British Telecom has still some way to go before it convinces the world that it really is the go-go modern information technology company it now likes to project of its image.

This is not really surprising. Since he arrived as chairman four years ago, with the brief of preparing BT for privatization, Sir George Jefferson has worked assidiously to change the ethos and leisurely practices of a public service telephone administration into something more appropriate to the commercial, market-oriented business which the Government (and many others) regards vital if Britain is to remain competitive in the rapidly changing field of telecommunications.

New management has been brought in. The corporation has been reorganized into five main business streams, and each local telephone area established as a profit centre in its own right. Tougher and more sophisticated financial controls have been introduced to replace the rudimentary "cash box" accounting system that was in place before. And after years of neglect, BT's business customers have suddenly found themselves besieged by marketing men touting new services such as electronic mail and funds transfer systems.

This flurry of furious activity has undoubtedly begun to produce results. Waiting lists for telephone installations have been cut from 200,000 to a few hundred in the last three years, and the volume of complaints from both domestic and business customers has fallen, though by no menas subsided altogether. Market research carried out recently showed that 56 per cent of the population now thinks BT is providing a good service – an improvement, but hardly a rave review.



How BT compares with other telephone systems

	US Dec 1982	Japan Mar 1983	W Germany Dec 1982	France Dec 1982	BT Mar 1984
Lines per employee	98	129	112	119	83
Telephones per 100 population	76	52	51	54	52
Revenue per employee £'000	41.3	33.8	32.8	31.5	28.5
Calls per exchange line	3,521	1,084	1,064	N/A	1,149
Capital investment per line (£)	141	114	135	117	73
% of lines electromechanical	31	79	99	11	63
% of lines electronic	62	18	1	52	36
% of lines digital	7	3		37	1

Source: Scott Goff Layton & Co.

Assessing British Telecom's growth prospects as a business, however, is not that easy, as the scores of broking analysts who have pored over BT's accounts in the last few months have discovered. Partly this is because the accounts themselves have been chopped and changed so much in the run-up to privatization that interpretation is unusually hazardous. With a turnover of nearly £7,000m a year, 241,000 employees, nearly 7,000 exchanges and thousands of miles of cable dotted around the country, BT is a sprawling business which is only now being given the kind of financial reporting and information systems which would be normal in any large private sector company.

But the biggest problem is simply that the environment in which BT is operating is changing so rapidly that nobody – BT included – can predict with any certainty where it will be in five years. On the one hand the pace of technological change in telecommunications is accelerating, with the development of satellites, fibre optic cable and digital exchanges converging with computer power to open up new, and largely uncharted, markets. On the other hand, BT has to cope with the potentially profound but equally unknown consequences of the Government's decision to open up the British telecommunications market to more competition. By licensing only one rival network (Mercury), and ruling out resale of private circuit capacity until the 1990s, the Government has moved to limit the potential inroads that can be made into BT's monopoly, in the short term. But until the likely impact becomes clearer – and until the new regulatory regime under Oftel the Office of Telecommunications has time to show what it is made of – only the rash will put their money on BT emerging unscathed, let alone fortified, from the competive challenge.

Nothing will stop BT continuing to make handsome profits in the next few years. In the last five years pretax profits have grown from £317m to £990m, and are officially forecast to jump sharply again this year to £1,350m on the old historic cost accounting method which is the only one that allows direct comparisons.

The broad consensus among analysts is that BT should be able without too much strain, to achieve profit and revenue growth of about 10 per cent a year for the rest of this decade. By 1988 it should be reporting profits of perhaps £1,750m, a respectable enough return on capital of between 15 and 20 per cent, buit still only 5 per cent annual growth in real terms.

This takes account of inflation minus three pricing limits imposed by the Government on BT's local and trunk calls, and also allows for the heavy investment programme in modern digital exchanges and fibre optic cable to which BT is committed.

Basic voice telephony still accounts for 80 per cent of BT's revenues. But whereas for 20 years BT's turnover growth has mostly come from extending the network to new customers, that option is fast running out. Virtually every business and 78 per cent of all households now have a telephone.

The challenge therefore for BT is to stimulate people and company's to make more calls with their existing equipment. Telephone usage in Britian has traditionally been determined by the level of economic growth in the economy.

BT has already introduced number of new services to try to stimulate more calls in the business and domestic market. But the impact has been limited. BT has estimated that if every residential subscriber made one extra trunk call a week, it would add £350m to its annual revenues and most of that would go straight through to profits.

Despite the efficiency drive of the last few years, Sir George has still to convince many in the City that he has yet begun to attack his cost base in earnest. By international standards, BT appears heavily overmanned, and its operating costs have continued to rise at about the same rate as its revenues.

Most forecasts assmue that BT's costs and sales will continue to rise in tandem over the next few years, with much of the profit improvement coming from lower interest costs and higher growth, rather than any sharp improvement in costs. BT is in the process of phasing out 15,000 jobs over a three year period which ends next year, but – perhaps for tactical reasons – has yet to disclose any plans for more radical surgery. The benefits in savings have to be set against the risk of industrial disruption which could greet any major restructuring. BT has certainly not been encouraging analysts to expect any sudden assault on manpower.

The big unknown remains the impact that Mercury's competition will have on BT's profitability. The common assumption is that Mercury will eventually succeed in carving out its minimum target of 5 per cent of the lucrative business and international markets. But nobody really knows.

What has always been clear is that the competition, when it comes, will be aimed at BT's most profitable activities. Its 300 largest business customers are estimated to account for a third of its total revenues, and BT has never denied the common belief that they also account for half its profits.

Despite the competitive uncertainty, the big plus point for BT is that, unlike the telephone companies in the United States, the regulatory regime imposed by the Government here does not put any upper limit on the return it can make. Thus it has the potential to be a high-tech growth business, even if – as yet – the jury is out on its potential to become one.

WALL STREET

● Ex div. a Asked. e Ex distribution. b Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

Estimated Nine Months Results for 1984

Royal Insurance

	9 months to 30 Sept 1984 (unaudited) £m	9 months to 30 Sept 1983 (unaudited) £m	Year 1983 (audited) £m
General Insurance: Premiums Written	1,645.6	1,438.8	1,910.1
Underwriting Balance	−250.8	−163.4	−209.6
Investment Income allocated to General Insurance operations	171.9	148.3	204.2
General Insurance Result	−78.9	−15.1	−5.4
Long-term Insurance Profit	15.0	12.8	17.5
Investment Income attributable to Capital and Reserves	61.2	57.3	75.1
Share of Associated Companies' Profits	10.2	8.2	11.2
Profit before Taxation	7.5	63.2	98.4
Less Taxation	16.6	11.6	17.8
Minority Interests	−0.5	0.0	0.4
Net Profit attributable to the Shareholders	−8.6	51.6	80.2
Earnings per share - *See Note 1*	(loss) 3.6p	21.9p	34.0p
Capital and Reserves - *See Note 2*	£1,674m	£1,600m	£1,652m

Note 1 *Earnings per share have been adjusted for the one for four scrip issue made in June 1984.*
Note 2 *The Long-term Insurance Business Reserve of £225m first established at 31 December 1983, has been included for each period.*

EXCHANGE RATES

Foreign currencies have been translated according to our normal practice at approximately the average rates of exchange ruling during the period. The principal rates were:—

USA	$1.38	$1.53	$1.51
Canada	$1.77	$1.88	$1.87
Australia	$1.55	$1.71	$1.68
Netherlands	Fls4.30	Fls4.30	Fls4.33

The pre-tax result has been adversely affected by £3¾m due to changes in exchange rates; the underwriting balance being worsened by £17½m, with investment income and Associated Companies benefiting by £13¾m.

INVESTMENT INCOME

Total investment income of £233.1m increased in sterling terms by 13.4%; allowing for changes in the rates of exchange the growth was 6¾%.

GENERAL INSURANCE

Premium income rose by 14.4% in sterling: allowing for the effect of currency changes, the increase was 8%. Details for the individual operating companies are as follows:—

In the **United States** the third quarter operating ratio was 118.1%, after 126.0% in the first quarter and 121.0% in the second quarter. The ratio for the year to date was 121.5% (1983 116.1%). In personal lines there was a better experience in homeowners and automobile business. The commercial lines result, however, remained very unsatisfactory but the degree of deterioration moderated somewhat; there was a 21% premium volume increase in the third quarter reflecting both our continuing firm pricing policy and the widespread hardening in the market. The remedial action has resulted in some further reduction in business and total dollar premium income, after the inclusion of Silvey Corporation from 1 June 1984, fell by just under 1%.

The increase in premium income in the **UK** was maintained at over 12%. Experience in the third quarter reflected increased fire wastage and the continuing upward trend in subsidence claims but improvement in other major lines produced a somewhat better result than in the corresponding period in 1983. The year to date result remains severely affected by the £32m weather losses in the first quarter.

In **Canada** there was a further marked deterioration in the third quarter where, as for the year to date, the automobile and general liability accounts were responsible for the major part of the worsening. More liberal interpretations of liability and more generous awards being made by the courts have had a substantial adverse impact on these lines with the consequent need to add during 1984 some £12m to prior years' claims reserves. Premium income growth in local terms of 5% was largely accounted for by rate increases.

Australia achieved a better insurance result in the third quarter continuing the overall improvement with strong premium growth, particularly in commercial lines, and a further reduction in the expense ratio.

The improvement shown in the second quarter by **Royal Int.** was maintained to produce a better result for the year to date. Premium growth in local terms following the acquisition of a majority shareholding in the Spanish insurance company Velazquez SA was over 21%.

In **Royal Nederland** there was some further worsening in the result mainly due to an increase in commercial fire, engineering and liability claims. Premium income rose by over 6% in local currency terms.

The result for **Royal Re** deteriorated in the third quarter as a consequence of a marked worsening in the proportional treaty engineering account. Experience in the facultative and home foreign business remained adverse.

Royal Life Insurance

During the nine months ended 30 September 1984 new single premiums written by **Royal Life** increased by 13% to £67.6m. New annual premiums fell by 13% to £38.7m. However, the comparable period for 1983 included a substantial volume of business arising from the conversion of existing mortgages to repayment by endowment assurance. As compared with the same period in 1982 new annual premiums increased by 114%. Self employed pension business increased significantly and the unit linked business in general performed well.

The long term insurance profit of £15.0m (£12.8m) represents three quarters of the estimated contribution for the whole year.

	9 months to 30 Sept 1984				9 months to 30 Sept 1983			
	Premiums Written £m	Under-Writing Balance £m	Allocated Investment Income £m	General Insurance Result £m	Premiums Written £m	Under-Writing Balance £m	Allocated Investment Income £m	General Insurance Result £m
Royal USA	675.7	−166.0	84.3	−81.7	614.8	−117.5	67.1	−50.4
Royal UK	448.5	−30.9	42.1	11.2	398.5	−20.4	40.8	20.4
Royal Canada	170.0	−30.0	20.9	−9.1	152.4	−5.4	20.3	14.9
Royal Australia	121.7	−1.7	9.9	8.2	76.3	−3.6	6.5	2.9
Royal Int.	113.6	−5.2	6.2	1.0	93.3	−6.5	5.8	−0.7
Royal Nederland	55.4	−4.9	4.8	−0.1	52.1	−3.2	4.7	1.5
Royal Re	60.7	−12.1	3.7	−8.4	51.4	−6.8	3.1	−3.7
	1,645.6	−250.8	171.9	−78.9	1,438.8	−163.4	148.3	−15.1

Royal Insurance plc, Group Head Office, 1 Cornhill, London EC3V 3QR.

YOUR OWN BUSINESS

Success is thinking small

By John Lawless

St Helens has overcome the insurmountable. It has set up a fund dedicated to raising small amounts of cash for growing firms in its own town – and has had it heavily oversubscribed.

It is now making investment cash in the £20,000 *to £50,000 range* available to local firms. Those are just the sort of amounts which, to the extreme frustration of industrial development officials throughout the country, makes the noses of nationally-based investment fund *managers turn up.*

The achievement of the St Helens Business Expansion Scheme Syndicate is all the remarkable because the only other serious attempt to set up such a fund was also in Lancashire – in the Rossendale constituency of no less a person of clout than Small Business Minister David Trippier. It failed to attract much more than a fifth of its target of £500,000 – though the fact that it was launched just before Christmas last year had much to do with its demise.

St Helens aimed at £200,000, got £235,000 by the closing date and had another £8,000 offered within the next few days.

Since July, it has been putting cash into local enterprises. A new *company making gym equipment* got £25,000. But the next £35,000 invested went into an industry that would make most outside fund managers get caught for speeding away down the M62: a foundry.

It was judged by the St Helens fund to be a good bet. Its main competitor, making large chemical pots, was closing – leaving a fair slice of the market to be taken up *through expansion.*

It will soon invest a similar amount in a transport-related business and has plenty of other prospects in its portfolio.

Run uniquely like an investors club, syndicate members put cash into a *solicitor's client fund* and agree to waive the interest they would otherwise get. This trims the cost to *firms* getting the cash to just 2½ per cent.

The fund was the brainchild of David Boult, director of the enterprise agency, the St Helens Trust.

Nobody will call time on them

Out of the closure of the Smith Industries' clock factory at Wishaw, near Glasgow, last year has risen a company which now boasts being the only manufacturer of high quality, *all-British decorative timepieces.* The St. James' Clock Company is just three months old and already on course for the £300,000 annual turnover needed to stay in business.

This workers' co-operative was launched using a total of £15,000 redundancy money from ten former Smith employees and a series of loans.

***The Scottish Development Agency* granted it a 12 months' rent "holiday" – worth £8,000 – for their 6,000 square foot factory on a local business park. Smith Industries have allowed the company to lease equipment with an option to purchase in 1985.**

The co-operative was set up after a market survey and general *manager Ewan Robb said:* "It identified a possible life raft in the shape of an all-brass carriage clock from the many lines manufactured by Smiths. All the signs said the prospects were good. Now the firm is up to its target of about 400 clocks a week and has orders from a number of leading jewellers including Mappin and Webb." Unlike most competing clocks from Germany and Japan, which are largely made from alloy, the St James Clock is *solid brass and uses British movements* and quartz drive. They are aimed to retail at between £165 and £300.



Ewan Robb knows time is a precious commodity.

Mr Webb claims big clock-makers, forced to cut margins to compete with cheap foreign competitors, *denied themselves room to manouvre* in a fashion-dominated market and end up going to the wall.

St James aim to stay small but profitable. "Many of us are in our fifties and that will ensure we make *the most of this because there is no* other future for us. Self-preservation is a great motivator," said Mr Robb.

The Scottish Co-operatives Development Committee, which has overseen St James, claims that up to 90 *per cent of firms* under their guidance have survived and prospered.

MR FRIDAY Ken Pyne

"I want to know the names of these outside investors whose offers David Trippier says are being rejected"

■ A franchise arrangement should be a *partnership based on mutual trust.* But some franchisees cheat, by under-declaring their sales, thereby robbing their mother-company of revenue. Spicer and Pegler, the chartered accountants, show how to tackle these sort of problems in a booklet **Financial Aspects of Franchising.**
Contact: Spicer and Pegler, St Mary Axe House, London EC3A 8BJ.

■ "Given that the average agency consumes no more than £57,000 per annum of resources and that, to maintain an individual on the unemployment register will cost £5,000, the creation of 164 jobs a year makes an enterprise agency a social investment of more than blue chip standing." That is *one conclusion of John Guest,* seconded from Cadbury Schweppes as regional director of Business in the Community, in his report **The Broadening Role of Enterprise Agancies.**
Contact: Business in the Community 227A City Road London EC1V 1LX.

B. Elliot returns to profit in first half

B. Elliott, the Harrow machine tools and engineering group, managed to make a pretax profit of £167,000 in the half-year to Sept 30. This compares with a pretax loss last time of £1.94 million. Turnover improved slightly, from £34.31 million to £35.64 million.

An unchanged interim dividend of 0.1p a share is being paid, to preserve Elliott's trustee status.

In the three years up to last March, this company has made big losses a the pretax level. In its interim report, the board tells shareholders that the group reconstruction has been largely completed in the six months.

Although some factors must slow Elliott's recovery, Mr Mark *Russell,* the *chairman,* expects the improvement in trading performance to continue. The balance sheet at Sept 30 was sound, with bank overdrafts down to £3 million world-wide.

In brief

● PHILIPS LAMPS HLDGS: The company intends to proceed with two issues of bonds with warrants providing the right to subscribe for ordinary shares of NV Gemeenschappelijk Bezit van Aandeelen Philips Gloeilampenfabrieken. Loans which will be expressed in Dutch guilders and Deutschemark respectively, will represent total principal amount of about 580m guilders.

● GLOBAL NATURAL RESOURCES: Unaudited net income for nine months ended September 30 US$4 million (£3.2 million) or 17 cents a share (US$1.4 million or 60 cents). Net income for third quarter US$956,000, or four cents per share. (Loss US$562,000 or two cents).

● JACKSON EXPLORATION: Three months to Sept 30. Figs in £000. Revenue 5,956 (5,619). Net pretax incme 720 (218). Tax nil (nil). Nine months to Sept 30, *Revenue 15,503 (8,146). Net pretax* income 831 (13,750 loss). Tax nil (credit 359).

● SLATERS FOOD PRODUCTS: Half-year to Sept 14. Intm 0.9p (same). Figs in £000. Turnover 6,278 (4,603). Pretax profit 251 (282). *The chairman, Mr Derek* Cooper, believes that results for the year will show an improvement over last year.

● FLEMING FAR EASTERN INVESTMENT TRUST: Results for six months to September 30. *Interim div 0.5p (0.5p). (Figures in* £000) Revenue invest income 1,368 (1,166). Depot interest 542 (52). Other income 49 (5). Administrative expenses 313 (118). Interest 152 (157). Tax 658 (471) earnings per ordinary 1.55p (0.84p).

● ALLIED LYONS: Agreement has been reached for the sale by the company's subsidiary, Allied Breweries Ltd, of its interest in Everfresh to Hinterlane, a company of which Mr Pat Pioli is a director and shareholder and Mr Paul Pioli is a *director. Mr Pat Pioli and Mr Paul* Pioli are also directors of Everfresh. The consideration for the sale was about £1m in cash.

● OUTWICH INVESTMENT TRUST: Sept 30. Interim 1p (0.75p), partly to reduce the disparity between payments. (Figs in £000). Pretax revenue 2,010 (1,820).

● LONDON AND ASSOCIATED INVESTMENT TRUST is to issue £580,000 10¼ per cent conv. deb. stock 2010 and £420,000 10¼ per cent non-conv. deb. stock 2010 to Prudential Assurance, which will not be quoted on the official list of the Stock Exchange, for cash at 98p per £1 nom. value. Prudential will retain the stock as an investment.

● WALKER CROSSWELLER: Half-year to Sept. 30. Figures in £000. Turnover 11,784 (10,370). Profit, before tax, 1,735 (1,477).

● MALARTIC HYGRADE GOLD MINES (CAN): Nine months to Sept. 30. Div. 10 cents (Canadian). (Figs. in C$000). Revenue 7,369 (12,135). Net income 1,983 (3,729).

● HUNTING GIBSON: Six months to June 30. Interim 2p (same). (Figs. in £000). Turnover 6,341 (7,628). Pretax profit 304 (725).

● CCL GROUP: Interim of 2p for six months ended June 30. The *board expects that the final will not* be less than the 6.4p paid last year. Sales £4.96m (4.69m). Pretax profit £276,000 (£150,000).

● TECHNOLOGY FOR BUSINESS has acquired Rair Limited, a leading British manufacturer of *business computers. The price for* Rair includes 200,000 options in TFB ordinary shares. To provide fresh working capital for the enlarged group, TFB will seek shareholders' approval to raise £1.25m with a placing of preference shares.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	10%
Adam & Company	10%
Barclays	10%
BCCI	10%
Citibank Savings †	11½%
Consolidated Crds	10½%
Continental Trust	10%
C. Hoare & Co *	10%
Lloyds Bank	10%
Midland Bank	10%
Nat Westminster	10%
TSB	10%
Williams & Glyn's	10%
Citibank NA	10%

† Mortgage Base Rate.
* 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000, 6¼%; £10,000 up to £50,000, 7¼%; £50,000 and over, 8¼%.

Miller is re-elected Lloyd's chairman

Lloyd's of London: Mr Peter Miller has been elected chairman of Lloyd's insurance market for another year from January 1. Mr Murray Lawrence was elected senior deputy chairman and Mr David Coleridge deputy junior chairman for the same period.

Myton: Mr D. M. Rogers has become chairman in addition to managing director. He will succeed Mr Barton Higgs who is retiring. Mr W. G. E. Mills has been made deputy managing director and Mr E. R. Frondigoum, a divisional director of Taylor Woodrow Construction, will join the board of Myton as a non-executive director on January 1.

Shotton Paper: Mr Michael Hehir has been made sales director.

Northern Investors Co: Mr Fred Turnbull, has joined the board.

Vantona Viyella: Mr J. L. Hewitt, group board director for the menswear division will become the group strategy director on January 1. Mr W. McEwan will be joining the group next week as a group board director, taking over the menswear division.

A. Cohen & Co: Mr C. Anders Cohen will be taking over as chairman from Mr Robert Cohen who is retiring but will remain on the board. Mr Matti Pylkkanen and Mr Roger Cohen will be joint managing directors and Mr Jim Ferguson, has become a director.

British Invisible Exports Council: The Earl of Limerick has become chairman in succession to the late Mr G. W. Mackworth-Young.

Throgmorton Investment Management: Lord Ezra of Horsham, has become a director.

Gestetner Holdings: Mr Robert Gardner has been made a member of the group management board and chairman of gestetner manufacturing.

Mitel Telecom: Mr David Rayfield has been made vice-president, engineering.

Bradbury Wilkinson: Mr Daniel A. Stewart and Sir David Scott have become non-executive directors of the main board.

British American Tobacco Co.: Mr W. J. Dickson has become a director.

APPOINTMENTS

Readicut International: Mr Mark Fielden has joined the board.

Sun Alliance: Mr R. J. Taylor has been appointed general manager, home division: Mr J. G. Fordyce and Mr J. H. Bishop have become assistant general managers in the same division. Mr K. Wilkinson has been made general manager, overseas division and Mr R. Petty, Mr T. A. Hayes and Mr C. C. Huke are assistant general managers in that division. Mr J. C. F. Peters has become group aviation manager and underwriter and Mr D. Town will become group marine manager.

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

● NATIONAL WESTMINSTER FINANCE (AUST): No dividend (same) revenue for the year to September 30 (figures in A$ 000) – 156,804 (129,133). Pretax profit 12.075 (10,628). Depreciation and amortization 1,361 (807). Personnel costs 14,015 (9,923). Other operating expenses 21,414 (13,258). Allocation to profit share scheme 446 (347). Interest on borrowings 101,083 (84,071) and adjusted to deferred income 1,190 (nil) but including reversal of provision for contingencies in relation to development of estate projects 260 (nil). Tax 3,692 (3,737) leaving 8,383 (6,362). Minorities 304 (176).

INTERNATIONAL THOMSON ORGANISATION: International Thomson Organisation Limited (ITOL) has declared a dividend of 8.25 United States cents per ITOL common share (an increase oif 13.8 per cent over the dividend paid in July). International Thomson Organisation PLC (ITOPLC) has declared a pound sterling equivalent dividend of 6.25p per ITOPLC common share, both payable on January 15.

● FITZWILTON: Year to June 30. Final 1p, making 2p (same). Figs in Irish £000. Turnover 6,585 (5,620). Pretax profit 1,456 (561).

● RENOLD: Half-year to end-Sept. Figs in millions of pounds. Turnover 58.2 (57.6). Trading profit 3.7 (0.2). Pretax profit 1.4 (loss 2.6).

● T. C. HARRISON: T. C. Harrison Group, a new company promoted by Messrs Edward Harrison, John Harrison and George Reed, all currently directors of T. C. Harrison who, together with their immediate families, own 37.1 per cent of the shares, will offer to acquire the rest of the capital at 74p cash for each ordinary share.

● ALIED IRISH BANK: half-year to Sept 30. Intm. Div. 4.5p (4.5p) on increased capital. Figs. in millions of Irish pounds. EPS 17.7p (13.2p). The board reports that results are in line with expectations. The recession in the Republic of Ireland has resulted in ther continuation of a high level of bad debts charged against profit and the bank does not forsee any improvement in the second half.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

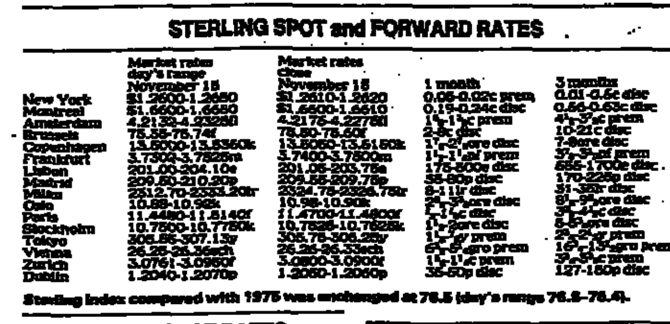
Trading was subdued on foreign exchanges as currency rates moved within narrow bands.

Both the pound and the dollar held relatively steady in the thin conditions.

The US currency, initially a shade easier, was able to stage a modest recovery *against sterling* finishing just 5 points in front at $1.2615.

Meanwhile, the pounds trade weighted index ended at 76.5 compared ith 76.6 at Wednesday's final calculation. In Deutschmark terms, sterling was a touch firmer at DM3.7430 (3.7420).

Dealers said there was little interest in the market. Latest US statistics including Industrial production during last month and consumer credit figures for September failed to make any appreciable impace. Both continued to underline the slowdown taking place in the US economy.



STERLING SPOT and FORWARD RATES

	Market rates day's range November 15	Market rates close November 15	1 month	3 months
New York	$1.2600-1.2680	$1.2610-1.2620	0.05-0.02c prem	0.01-0.5c disc
Montreal	$1.6600-1.6680	$1.6600-1.6610	0.19-0.24c disc	0.56-0.63c disc
Amsterdam	4.2132-4.23280	4.2176-4.22781	1¼-1⅛c prem	4⅛-3⅞c prem
Brussels	75.55-75.74f	75.50-75.60f	2-8c disc	10-21c disc
Copenhagen	13.5000-13.5360k	13.5050-13.5150k	1⅞-2⅞ore disc	7-8ore disc
Frankfurt	3.7304-3.7525m	3.7400-3.7500m	1⅛-1⅛pf prem	3⅞-3⅛pf prem
Lisbon	201.00-204.10e	201.05-203.75e	175-500e disc	565-1700e disc
Madrid	209.50-210.20p	209.55-209.75p	35-60p disc	170-225p disc
Milan	2312.70-2333.20lr	2324.75-2326.75lr	8-11lr disc	31-32lr disc
Oslo	10.88-10.92k	10.98-10.90k	2⅞-3⅞ore disc	8⅞-9⅞ore disc
Paris	11.4480-11.5140f	11.4700-11.4800f	1⅞-1⅛c disc	3⅞-4⅛c disc
Stockholm	10.7500-10.7750k	10.7525-10.7625k	1⅞-2⅞ore disc	5-5⅞ore disc
Tokyo	306.55-307.13y	305.75-306.25y	1⅛-⅞y prem	2⅞-2⅛y prem
Vienna	26.25-26.36sch	26.26-26.33sch	6⅞-5⅞gro prem	16⅞-13⅞gro prem
Zurich	3.0761-3.0950f	3.0800-3.0900f	1⅛-1⅛c prem	3⅞-3⅛c prem
Dublin	1.2040-1.2070p	1.2050-1.2060p	35-50p disc	127-150p disc

Sterling index compared with 1975 was unchanged at 76.5 (day's range 76.5-76.4).

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Ireland	1.0490-1.0505
Singapore	2.1450-2.1465
Malaysia	2.3955-2.3975
Australia	0.8575-0.8585
Canada	1.3164-1.3169
Sweden	8.5225-8.5325
Norway	8.6300-8.6400
Denmark	10.7050-10.7150
West Germany	2.9650-2.9665
Switzerland	2.4430-2.4450
Netherlands	3.3445-3.3465
France	9.0950-9.1000
Japan	242.50-242.65
Italy	1844-1846
Belgium(Comm)	59.80-59.85
Hongkong	7.8210-7.8240
Portugal	160.00-163.00
Spain	166.20-166.40
Austria	20.85-20.88

Rates supplied by Barclays Bank HOFEX and Extel.

OTHER £ RATES

Australia	1.4682-1.4712
Bahrein	0.4780-0.4790
Finland	7.7980-7.8380
Greece	153.65-155.65
Hongkong	9.8585-9.8700
Iran	n.a.
Kuwait	0.3785-0.3805
Malaysia	3.0195-3.0245
Mexico	245.00-270.00
New Zealand	2.5413-2.8485
Saudi Arabia	4.4760-4.5160
Singapore	2.7037-2.7079
South Africa	2.2184-2.2284

EURO-$ DEPOSITS

Barclays (%) calls, 9⅛-8⅞; seven days, 9⅛-9⅛; one month, 9⅝-9⅞; three months, 9⅞-9⅞; six months, 10⅛-10⅛.

RECENT ISSUES

	Closing Price
Addison Comm 2p Ord (116a)	169+1
Alida Holdings 25p Ord (140a)	148-1
Appledore A & P 10p Ord (87)	85
Breakmate 10p Ord (100a)	102
Brit Bloodstock Ag 25p Ord (165a)	230-3
CVD Inc Com Stock $0.01 (105a)	133-2
Checkpoint Europe 25p Ord (a)	165-5
Comp Fin Serv 5p Ord (85a)	80-1
Craton Lodge & Knight 1p Ord (115a)	161
Fergabrook Grp 20p Ord (74a)	106+1
Gabucci 5p Ord (78a)	91-1
Hawtal Whiting 5p Ord (197a)	224+2
Iceland Frozen Food 10p Ord (210)	352-2
Instem 10p Ord (145a)	188
Klark-Teknik 5p Ord (85a)	110
Media Technology 20p Ord (117a)	146+3
Oldacre Hldgs 30p Ord	100
Paul Michael L'wear 5p Ord (30a)	29
Plasmec 10p Ord (70a)	74-1
Second Market Inv 5p Ord (10)	11
Shares Drug stores 10p Ord (140a)	189+1
Stone International 20p Ord (125)	139+1
T & S Stores 5p Ord (a)	112+1
Trade Promotion 10p Ord (75a)	80-2
U D O Holdings 10p Ord (110a)	125
Wates City of Lon Prop 25p Ord (100)	110

Issue price in parentheses a Unlisted Securities. * by tender.

● TR TECHNOLOGY INVESTMENT TRUST: *Half-year-to-Sept 30.* Intm. div (0.5p) on increased capital. Figs. in £000. Total income 4,553 (3,549). Pretax revenue 3,348 (3,083). Tax 1,249 (1,230). EPS 0.93p (0.83p adjusted).

● NORTHGATE EXPLORATION: Three months to Sept 30. Figs. in C$000. Revenue 11.367 (10.451). Pretax loss 3,687 (loss 6.078). Nine months to Sept 30. Revenue 51,851 (46,275). Pretax income 5,718 (6,552 loss).

● MERGER CLEARANCE: The proposed acquistion by Nottingham Manufacturing of Johnson Group Cleaners is not to be referred to the Monopolies Commission.

MONEY MARKETS

Period rates held steady yesterday despite growing concern about the US budget deficit.

When Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, told Parliament he saw lower interest rates. the market took the opportunity to mark rates down another 1/16 or 1/17.

So everyone will be waiting to see if the Bank of England, in attempting to relieve a shortage today that the market forecasts could be in the region of £18 *billion, has decided that it is* now appropriate to lower its intervention rates, opening the door to a cut in bank base rates to 9½ per cent.

Dollar rates firmed on worries about the Budget deficit, though business remained modest.

Clearing Banks Base Rate 10

Discount Mkt Loans%
Overnight: High 10⅛ Low 9½

Week Fixed: 10⅛-10

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying	Selling
2 months 9⅝	2 months 9[illegible]
3 months 9⅝	3 months 9½

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%)/Trades (Dis%)

1 month 9⅞-9[illegible]	1 month 10⅛
2 months 9⅞-9[illegible]	2 months 10⅛
3 months 9[illegible]-9[illegible]	3 months 9[illegible]
6 months 9[illegible]-9[illegible]	6 months 9[illegible]

Local Authority Bonds

1 month 10⅛-10⅛	7 months 10⅛-10
2 months 10⅛-10	8 months 10⅛-10
3 months 10⅛-10	9 months 10⅛-10
4 months 10⅛-10	10 months 10⅛-10
5 months 10⅛-10	11 months 10⅛-10
6 months 10⅛-10	12 months 10⅛-10

Secondary Mkt. £CD Rates (%)

1 month 10[illegible]-9[illegible]	6 months 9⅞-9⅝
3 months 9⅞-9⅝	12 months 9[illegible]-9⅝

Local Authority Market (%)

1 day 10	3 months 10
7 days 10	6 months 10
1 month 10	1 year 9⅞

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: open 10⅛ Close 9

1 week 10⅛-10	6 months 9⅞-9[illegible]
1 month 10-9[illegible]	9 months 9[illegible]-9⅞
3 months 9⅞-9[illegible]	12 months 9[illegible]-9⅞

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)

3 months 9⅞ 6 months 9⅞

Finance House Base Rate 11

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY PRICES

Rubber in £'s per tonne; Coffee, cocoa, sugar in £'s per metric ton; Gasoil in US$ per metric ton.

RUBBER	
Dec	615-95
Jan	625-05
Feb	635-15
Mar	645-25
Apr	655-35
May	665-45
Jun	675-55
Jul	685-65
Aug	695-75
Jan/Mar	635-15
Apl/Jun	665-45
Jul/Sep	696-75
SUGAR	
Dec	133.20-134.40
Mar	152.20-152.40
May	159.40-159.60
Aug	168.20-168.40
Oct	176.00-176.60
Dec	182.00-183.60
Mar	196.00-197.20
Vol:	1262
COCOA	
Nov	2300-25
Dec	1938-36
Mar	1887-86
May	1890-89
July	1888-87
Sep	1883-81
Dec	1825-24
Mar	1830-14
Vol:	3,624
COFFEE	
Nov	2595-80
Jan	2380-79
Mar	2230-29
May	2288-86
Jul	2176-74
Sep	2164-63
Nov	2160-58
Vol:	4,780
GAS OIL	
Nov	234.00-33.75
Dec	237.75-37.50
Jan	238.00-37.75
Feb	236.25-36.00
Mar	233.00-31.25
Apl	227.75-27.50
May	226.50-26.00
Jun	231.00-20.00
Jly	232.00-20.00
Vol:	1,758

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE
Unofficial prices:
Official turnover figures.
Prices in pounds per metric ton
Silver in pence per troy ounce
Rudolf Wolff & Co. Ltd. report

COPPER HIGH GRADE	
Cash	1057.50-1058.50
Three months	1083-1083.50
T.O	9.750
Tone: Easier.	
STANDARD CATHODES	
Cash	1065.00-1066.00
Three months	1083.00-1085.00
T.O	nil
Tone: Idle.	
TIN STANDARD	
Cash	9645-9650
Three months	9645-9650
T.O:	400
Tone: Steady.	
TIN HIGH-GRADE	
Cash	9685-9690
Three months	9685-9690
T.O:	275
Tone: Steady, but quiet.	
LEAD	
Cash	348.50-349.50
Three months	347.00-347.50
T/O:	6350
Tone: Steady.	
ZINC STANDARD	
Cash	618.00-619.00
Three months	623.50-624.00
T/O:	6,000
Tone: Easier.	
ZINC HIGH GRADE	
Cash	666.00-669.00
Three months	666.00-669.00
T/O:	Nil
Tone: Idle.	
SILVER LARGE	
Cash	601.0-602.0
Three months	616.0-617.0
T/O:	64
Tone: Steady.	
SILVER SMALL	
Cash	601.0-602.0
Three months	616.0-617.0
T/O:	Nil
Tone: Idle.	
ALUMINIUM	
Cash	952.00-953.00
Three months	978.50-979.00
T/O:	12,600
Tone: Steady.	
NICKEL	
Cash	3735-3740
Three months	3817-3820
T/O:	888
Tone: Steady.	

LONDON GOLD FUTURES MARKET
In US $ per oz.

Dec	345.50-346.50
Vol	107
Tone: Quiet.	

LONDON INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL FUTURES
Rudolf Wolff Financial Services Ltd.

Mnth	Vol	Setlmt
YEN		
Dec'84	20	4129
Mar'85	-	-
Jun'85	-	-
Comment: Quiet.		
STERLING		
Dec'84	10	1.2615
Mar'85	2	1.2627
Jun'85	-	-
Comment: Steady.		
D-MARK		
Dec'84	7	3379
Mar'85	-	3413
Jun'85	-	-
Comment: Steady.		
SWISS FRANC		
Dec'84	-	4101
Mar'85	-	-
Jun'85	-	-
Comment: Quiet.		
EURODOLLARS		
Dec'84	3645	9001
Mar'85	1378	8951
Jun'85	158	8906
Sep'85	31	8865
Dec'85	1	8826
Comment: Mixed.		
SHORT STERLING		
Dec'84	951	9035
Mar'85	298	9048
Jun'85	168	9034
Sep'85	-	9006
Dec'85	-	8978
Comment: Firmer.		
T-BONDS		
Dec'84	1635	6930
Mar'85	-	6904
Jun'85	-	-
Comment: Uncertain.		
GILTS		
Dec'84	3472	10916
Mar'85	-	10826
Jun'85	-	10809
Sep'85	-	11113
Comment: Consolidating.		
FTSE		
Dec'84	243	11725
Mar'85	-	11740
Jun'85	10	11775
Comment: Steady.		

MEAT AND LIVESTOCK COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on November 15:–
GB: Cattle. 97.40p per kg lw (+0.58).
GB: Sheep. 180.98p per kg est d.c w (–9.55).
GB: Pigs. 93.22p per kg lw (–1.82).
England and Wales:
Cattle nos. down 12.7 per cent. ave. price. 96.70p (+0.64).
Sheep nos. down 17.6 per cent. ave. price. 183.46p (–6.35)
Pig nos. up 16.3 per cent. ave. price. 93.42p (+1.95).
Scotland:
Cattle nos. up 21.1 per cent. ave. price. 99.69p (–0.57).
Sheep nos. up 13.5 per cent. ave. price. 173.01p (–20.57).
Pig nos. down 5.1 per cent. ave. price. 86.95p (–3.40).

London Grain Futures Market

Month	WHEAT Close	BARLEY Close
Nov	£107.45	106.75
Jan	£110.30	109.60
Mar	£113.60	112.85
May	£116.95	115.40
Jly	£118.55	-
Sep	£97.25	96.50

Total lots traded
Wheat: 107
Barley: 84

● J T PARRISH: Six months to July 1931. Figs in £000. T/over. after VAT. 1,672 (1,873). Pretax loss 333 (54 loss).

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

1984 High	1984 Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
180	119	Aberdeen	152	● +1	7.5	4.9	..
86	56	Atlas	86	..	1.9	2.2	..
588	438	Alliance	560	–3	20.7	3.7	..
115	88½	Amar	110	..	3.8	3.3	..
288	218	Ang Amer Sec	258	–4	7.8	3.0	..
70	53½	Ang Int	55	● ..	10.0	18.2	..
600	384	Ang Int Ass	475	..	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
225	185	Fleming Claver	217	+1	11.1	5.1	..
224	180	Fleming Enterprise	217	..	10.4	4.8	..
315	226	Fleming Far East	302	●	2.9	0.9	..
528	390	Fleming Japan	503	● +5	4.3	0.8	..
107	90	Fleming Mercantile	106	–1	4.0	3.8	..
110	82	Fleming Overseas	105	..	3.3	3.2	..
150	119½	Fleming Tech	145	..	3.1	2.2	..
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
297	243	Rosbum	293	..	12.0	4.1	..
115	93	River & Merc	114	+1	6.4	5.6	..
195	156	River Plate	195	..	9.3b	4.8	..
162	138	Robeco	162	..	..	..	..
157	127	Rolinco	151	..	..	..	..
234	185	Romney	233	..	6.3	2.7	..
10⅝	9⅛	Rorento	10⅞	–⅛	..	..	..
[illegible]	257	St Andrews	277	..	10.0	3.6	..
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Law Report November 16 1984 House of Lords

Long-term prisoners' challenge to lawfulness of new parole policy fails

Regina v Secretary of State for the Home Department, Ex parte Findlay and Others

Before Lord Scarman, Lord Diplock, Lord Roskill, Lord Brandon of Oakbrook and Lord Brightman

[Speeches sold November 15]

The Home Secretary's policy statement in the House of Commons on November 30, 1983 announcing a stricter policy on parole, and the implementation of that policy were not unlawful notwithstanding that the policy was formulated without prior consultation with the Parole Board. The Home Secretary was not under any statutory obligation to consult the board to have regard to factors such as retribution, deterrence and public confidence in the administration of criminal justice.

The House of Lords so held, dismissing consolidated appeals by four prisoners serving custodial sentences, Edward Findlay, Peter Hogben, Roy Honeyman and Roy Matthews, from a judgment of a majority of the Court of Appeal (Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, and Lord Justice Griffiths, *Lord Justice Browne-Wilkinson* dissenting) on July 6, 1984 (*The Times* July 7, 1984) refusing the prisoners' appeals from a technical refusal by the Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Parker and Mr Justice Forbes on May 22, 1984 (*The Times* May 23, 1984) of their applications for judicial review of the change of policy.

Mr Stephen Sedley, QC and Mr Edward Fitzgerald for the prisoners; Mr John Laws and Mr Robert Jay for the Home Secretary.

LORD SCARMAN said that the appeals arose in proceedings *brought by four convicted prisoners* who applied for judicial review of the decision of the Home Secretary to make major policy changes in the administration of the parole system for the release of prisoners on licence which was introduced by sections 59 to 64 of the Criminal Justice Act 1967.

The case for the appellants was that prior to the policy change each of them legitimately expected that he would be released on licence in the reasonably near future, that their expectations were shattered by the change of policy, that in adopting the new policy the the Home Secretary acted unlawfully and that in the circumstances the court should declare that the policy was unlawful in that it contravened the statute.

The application was heard by a Divisional Court of two judges, who disagreed, Lord Justice Parker being for dismissal of the proceedings but Mr Justice Forbes being in favour of granting relief. The prisoners chose to treat the result as a dismissal and went at once to the Court of Appeal, who dismissed the appeal by a majority.

On October 11, 1983 the Home Secretary announced at the Conservative Party conference in *Blackpool that he was introducing* far-reaching changes of policy in the excercise of his statutory discretion to release on licence persons serving sentences of imprisonment for certain serious offences. The changes would affect those serving life sentences as well as those serving substantial fixed sentences.

Thus parole for certain classes of prisoners would not be granted save in exceptional circumstances or *for* compelling reasons until the minimum period specified had been served in prison.

He indicated that he would be making a parliamentary statement and that he would consult the Parole Board on the "precise way of achieving the new policy". But it was plain that he was not consulting the board in the formulation of the new policy.

In the announcement he emphasised that he was responding to the pressure of public opinion and that the public "do want to know with certainty what will actually happen to the most serious offenders, and *they want what happens to reflect* the gravity of the offences they have committed".

He was attentive to "growing public criticism about the gap between the length of sentence passed and the length of the sentence actually served ... that gap can endanger public confidence in *our criminal justice system. People* want to know with some certainty what a sentence that has been passed actually means in practice."

On November 30, 1983, the Home Secretary made the promised policy statement in Parliament and emphasised that he must take account of the general public concern about the increase in violent crime and the criticism of sentences actually served.

The four prisoners were serving sentences for offences within the classes affected by the policy statement.

Findlay was serving a sentence of seven years for armed robbery *imposed in 1981. Since November* 1982 he had been in Long Lartin Prison which was used to accommodate prisoners of known good character and he expected to be released on licence in March 1984 until he heard of the new policy.

Matthews was serving a sentence of nine years for drug trafficking *imposed in March 1982 and had* been held in Long Lartin since June 1982. He would have become eligible for parole in April 1984. Both Findlay and Matthews had excellent prison records and clearly expected to be granted parole in 1984 or early 1985.

Hogben and Honeyman were serving life terms for murder in the course of an armed robbery and for murder by stabbing in the course of a burglary respectively. Both had been exemplary prisoners and had been moved to open prisons in December 1982 and January 1983 respectively but both were moved back to a closed prison on the day of the Home Secretary's announcement to the conference.

They were two of the four prisoners of whom the Home Secretary said in Parliament that their "release in the relatively near future would not have accorded with my view of the gravity of their offences". Until the announcement of October 11, 1983 each expected that he might be granted parole in the not too distant future.

The shattering impact of the policy statement upon the four prisoners could surprise no one. Their excellent prison records were greatly to their credit and the prior practice in the administration of parole understandably nourished their hopes of release.

The Home Secretary was, of course, aware of the impact upon some of the new policy. But he made it clear that in cases of violent crime the paramount consideration which he would have in mind would be the safety of the public, not the interests of the individual criminal.

The Criminal Justice Act 1967 made radical changes to the existing legislation. Section 59(1) and (3) created the Parole Board and cast upon it the duty to advise the Home Secretary with respect to the release on licence and recall of persons whose cases had been referred to the board by the Home Secretary, the *conditions of such licences and the* variations or cancellation of such conditions and any other matter so referred which was connected with the release on licence or recall of persons to whom sections 60 or 61 applied.

Section 60(1) provided that the Home Secretary might, if rec*ommended to do so by the Parole* Board, release on licence a person serving a sentence of imprisonment, other than imprisonment for life, after he had served not less than one third of his sentence or twelve months thereof, whichever expired the later.

Section 61(1) provided that the *Home Secretary might, if rec*ommended to do so by the Parole Board, release on licence a person serving a sentence of life imprisonment or a person detained under section 53 of the Children and Young Persons Act 1933 (young offenders convicted of grave crimes), but should not do so in the case of *a person sentenced to life* imprisonment or to detention during her Majesty's pleasure or for life except after consultation with the Lord Chief Justice and the trial judge if available.

As Lord Justice Parker had said, it could be seen that neither in the case of determinate sentences nor in *the case of life sentences had the* Home Secretary any power to release on licence unless recommended to do so by the board; that in the case of life sentences an additional precondition to the exercise of the power was consultation with the Lord Chief Justice and, if available the trial judge; that subject to a *minimum period of 12* months all determinate sentence prisoners became eligible for release on licence after serving a minimum of one third of their sentence; and, that life sentence prisoners were not subject to any mimimum period.

The 1967 Act provided no machinery for implementing sections 60 and 61 and ensuring that consideration was given by the Parole Board to the question of release, but section 59 (6) enabled the Home Secretary by Rules to establish local review committees.

Pursuant to that power the Home Secretary made the Local Review Committee Rules (SI 1967 No 1462) establishing such committees. The Rules recognized what was implicit in section 60 (1) of the 1967 Act, namely, that the Home Secretary should be in possession of information concerning a prisoner's suitability for release as soon as he became eligible.

In case of life sentences however, there being no fixed period to be served before eligibility, the Home Secretary, in order to inform himself, appointed a joint committee of the Home Office and the Parole Board to consider at what stage the case of a prisoner serving a life sentence should be sent to a local committee under the 1967 Rules for first review.

Since the inception of that scheme there had been certain developments so that the perpetrators of all crimes attracting sentences of more than four years and crimes involving violence sex arson or drug trafficking had been regarded in one way or another as requiring more caution in the *exercise of the power of release than* others. That recognition of the gravity of certain offences and the classification of prisoners was repeated in section 32 of the Criminal Justice Act 1982.

The Home Secretary had two unfettered discretions. It was entirely a matter for him whether or *not to refer the case of a prisoner to* the board for advice: and he had a complete discretion whether or not to accept the board's recommendation. Thus he had the first and last reponsibility.

The board could not consider a case unless he referred it. And, although he could not release a *prisoner unless the board so recommended*, he was not bound to act on the recommendation.

Following from that, the characteristic of the parole system was its duality. The Home Secretary and the board had to concur. The board had to include among its members a very special expertise, namely, a *judge (past or present)*, a medical practitioner who was a psychiatrist, a person having knowledge or experience of the supervision of after-care of discharged prisoners, and a person who had made a study of the causes of delinquency or the treatment of offenders.

The emphasis was upon the need for *the board to include persons* with the skills and experience required to assess the risk of early release. But the Home Secretary had clearly to consider other aspects of the early release of a prisoner. Deterrence, retribution and public confidence in the system were factors of importance.

The board through *its judicial* and other members could offer advice on those aspects but it could not be as close or as sensitive to public opinion as a minister responsible to Parliament and the electorate.

He had to judge the public acceptability of early release and to determine the policies needed to maintain public confidence in the system of criminal justice. That was why Parliament saw as necessary the duality of the parole system.

It was contended on behalf of the appellants that failure to consult the board before adopting the new policy was unlawful. But there was no express statutory requirement for such consultation and because of the essential duality of the parole system it was impossible to imply such a requirement into the statute.

The appellants also invoked the principle in *Associated Provincial Picture Houses Ltd v Wednesbury Corporation* ([1948] 1 KB 223), submitting that no reasonable Home Secretary could have reasonably omitted to consult the board.

However, the statute neither prohibited the Home Secretary from consulting the board before adopting a policy change in the exercise of his discretionary power to grant parole nor required him to do so.

In deciding to adopt the new *policy without consulting the board* the Home Secretary took into account the factors of deterrence, retribution and public confidence in the administration of justice, which were plainly material matters. He could not therefore be said to have acted unreasonably in having regard to them. Accordingly the failure to *consult the board was not unlawful*.

The appellants accepted that a policy could in some circumstances be lawfully adopted in the exercise of an administrative discretion but submitted that the statutory provisions were such as to require "individual consideration of individual cases in every instance, free *of presumptions or policies". The* question was simply whether the new policy constituted a refusal to consider the cases of prisoners within the specified classes. The answer was clearly "no".

Consideration of a case was not excluded by a policy which provided that exceptional circum*stances or compelling reasons must* be shown because of the weight to be attached to the nature of the offence, the length of the sentence and the factors of deterrence, retribution, public confidence, all of which it was the duty of the Home Secretary to consider.

There was nothing wrong in *classifying offenders according* to the character and gravity of their offences and the length of sentences imposed, provided always that the classification did not preclude consideration of other relevant factors such as prison record, personal or family circumstances and the element of risk (or its absence) in the event of early release.

Presumption in certain cases against parole was an inevitable, and no doubt intended, consequence of the policy. It would be unlawful only if it were irrebuttable, that is, if it precluded consideration of other factors. But the policy did not exclude consideration of other factors.

It was also contended on behalf of the appellants that the policy operated as a punishment or penalty. In a very real sense extra *time spent in goal was a punishment*. An effect of the new policy was that the prisoners expected to remain longer in prison than they would have done had the policy not been adopted.

The sentence of the court was in law the punishment. The disappointment of the expectation which prisoners might have that under the parole system they would not have to serve the whole of a sentence in prison might be distressing but was not a punishment or penalty which went beyond the sentence of the court.

Thus one was thrown back to the question of the lawfulness of the policy to be followed in the consideration of their cases. If the policy was lawful, the disappointment of the expectation could be no ground for judicial review: if it was unlawful, the prisoner's case for relief did not depend upon a description of his disappointment as a punishment.

It was also submitted that the policy fettered the discretion and undermined the independence of the Parole Board and that consideration weighed strongly in the dissenting judgment of Lord Justice Browne-Wilkinson.

When the Home Secretary consulted the board on how to achieve the new policy, the board expressed a wish to see all the cases that under the prior practice they would see "in order to give full consideration to the circumstances of each individual prisoner". The Home Secretary agreed on the understanding that the board's reviews would take account of the new policy.

Granted the separate responsiblities of minister and board, it was good sense and in the public interest that the board should know the release policy of the minister when conducting their own review of individual cases.

If the Home Secretary had concealed the existence of his policy from the board, very substantial criticism of his action could have been expected. Since the Home Secretary had the final responsi*bility for release, the board needed* to know his policy if their advice was to be relevant and of value.

The suggestion that such knowledge interfered with the independence of the board was, in the words of Lord Justice Griffiths "a pretty unlikely scenario". The membership of the board exposed the *nonsense of the suggestion* that they would yield to pressure in the discharge of their advisory duty: and there was nothing in the policy statement to suggest that the Home Secretary intended to excercise any pressure to prevent them from examining the circumstances of each case individually.

In the cases of Findlay and Matthews, both of whom received determinate sentences, it was not suggested that the statute gave rise to any greater expectation than that their cases would be considered on their becoming eligible for parole.

Their cases had been considered and would continue to be con*sidered* under the new policy. Unless therefore the policy was unlawful (which it was not) the arguments relating to legitimate expectation availed them nothing.

Hogben and Honeyman who were serving life sentences, had good reason under the practice which prevailed before the adoption of the new policy to expect release much earlier than became likely after its adoption.

The doctrine of legitimate expectation had an important place in the developing law of judicial review. A legitimate expectation could provide a sufficient interest to enable one who could not point to the existence of a substantive right to obtain the leave of the court to apply for judicial review.

Hogben and Honeyman obtained leave but their submission went further. They said that the refusal to except them from the new policy was an *unlawful* act on the part of the Home Secretary in that his decision had frustrated their expectation. But what was their legitimate expectation? Given the substance and purpose of the legislative provisions governing parole, the most that a convicted prisoner could legitimately expect was that his case would be examined individually in the light of whatever policy the Home Secretary saw fit to adopt, provided always that the adopted policy was a lawful exercise of the discretion conferred upon him by the statute.

Any other view would entail the conclusion that the unfettered *discretion conferred by the statute* upon the minister could in some cases be restricted so as to hamper, or even prevent changes of policy.

Bearing in mind the complexity of the issues which the Home Secretary had to consider and the importance of the public interest in the administration of parole, it *could not be thought that Parliament* intended the discretion to be restricted in that way.

Lord Diplock, Lord Roskill, Lord Brandon and Lord Brightman agreed.

Solicitors: Treasury Solicitor; B. M. Birnberg & Co.

Copy need not be signed

Chief Constable of Surrey v Wickens

Where a police officer, having carried out the correct procedure of taking two specimens of breath on the Lion Intoximeter as provided in section 8 of the Road Traffic Act 1972, as substituted by section 25 of and Schedule 8 to the Transport Act 1981, had signed a certificate incorporated in a statement automatically produced by the device but had served an unsigned copy on the defendant, there was no failure to comply with the requirements of service of a "copy" under section 10(5) of the 1972 Act as substituted.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Watkins and Mr Justice Nolan) so held on November 14 allowing the prosecutor's appeal against the decision of the Guildford Justices on March 6, 1984, who dismissed an information against the defendant for an offence under section 6(1) of the 1972 Act as substituted.

LORD JUSTICE WATKINS, delivering the reserved judgment of the court, said that an unsigned copy was a copy and that was all that the language of section 10(5) required. If the legislature intended that the copy as well as the original of the document had to be signed it would have said so. There was no question in the present case of the *defendant's interests having been* prejudiced

Correction

In *R v Central Criminal Court, Ex parte Crook* (*The Times* November 8) the second sentence in the fifth paragraph of Lord Justice Stephen Brown's judgment should have read: "Witnesses might on occasions be permitted to write down their addresses" thus omitting "names and".

Authorized Units & Insurance Funds

1983/84 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

THE TIMES **Portfolio**

From your Portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

No.	Company	Your gain or loss
	BUILDING AND ROADS	
1	Meyer Int	
2	UBM	
3	Ward	
4	Wilson (Connolly)	
5	Monk (A)	
6	Lawrence (Walter)	
7	Redland	
8	Tarmac	
9	Laing (J)	
10	Bellway	
	PROPERTY	
11	Peachey	
12	Samuel	
13	Cussins	
14	Haslemere	
15	Br Land	
16	Daejan	
17	Rosehaugh	
18	Trafford Park	
19	Prop Hldgs	
20	Burstow Eves	
	INDUSTRIALS S-Z	
21	Tomkins (FH)	
22	Whatman Reeve	
23	Swire Pacific 'A'	
24	SI	
25	Spear & Jackson	
26	Wolverhmptn Lam	
27	Wills (G) & Sons	
28	Siebe	
29	Spear (JW)	
30	Wolsey Hughes	
	MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT	
31	Caffyns	
32	Hartwells	
33	Woodhead (Jonas)	
34	Dunlop	
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MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT

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Penmanship

Love letters or a laundry list – penmanship is important for the pleasure in giving and receiving a small work of art.

An increasing number of professional people find themselves writing less and less. Journalists are a case in point, and more than once I have found myself, or witnessed a colleague, struggling to write comprehensibly.

We are used to scribbling our idiosyncratic shorthand, but we type all our stories (the only part of this article which will have been penned by hand will be the sub-editor's corrections), and almost all our letters.

The only regular writing we do is the signing of cheques and forms, scribbled entries in our diaries, and occasional postcards from holidays abroad.

Our signatures, in many cases, disintegrate into barely intelligible scrawls, and we become virtually incapable of employing that most basic tool of our trade, the pen. A fountain-pen is something that many who call themselves writers will not have picked up for many years.

The fact that Gore Vidal, the American novelist, writes all his work by *hand* – several thousands words a day – is staggering to those of us who have become more or less dependent on the typewriter. But Mr Vidal is not unique.

A large number of best-selling authors write by hand – Jeffrey Archer, Jackie Collins and Jack Higginss – but each relies on a secretary who translates hand-written manuscript into type. I would guess that those who have not yet made the best-seller list and cannot afford to employ typists, would be more likely to type than to write by hand.

There are a few professional people who are more or less obliged to write by hand. Architects are an obvious example, as their plans are usually on huge sheets of paper that would never fit into a typewriter.

Barristers and doctors write too, although more for reasons of tradition than practicality. A doctor's hands, so adept with their patients, seem ill-equipped to hold pens – as many a confused chemist will testify. Indeed, it has been argued with good reason that if more doctors typed their prescriptions, the health of the nation might improve dramatically.

A barrister's brief, always elegantly bound in pink ribbon, is either hand written, or typed by a secretary. British barristers are far too grand to learn to type themselves.

This lion, formed from Tawqi script, is probably 19th century Persian and reads as a blessing.

From Islamic calligraphy (Thames and Hudson).

Of course there are other professionals who *write* by hand. But it would be hard to deny that they are a diminishing number, and commercial and economic imperatives make typing in most cases a far more practical method, both for speed and readability.

In the world of business, there cannot be many company executives who write by hand. They dictate their letters to secretaries, who type them, possibly with the aid of a word processor; if the matter is urgeent, they use the telephone.

Handwriting plays a far less important part in our social life, too, except for the small minority who do not have telephones. How often do you get handwritten letters through your letter-box? The chances are that even if the envelope is hand-written, its contents will be in the form of a printed card.

A letter in the correspondents own hand is not only a rarity; it is something to be cherished, because not only does it reflect the fact that someone has taken a certain amount of trouble – it also reveals much of the writer's character.

That expression of individuality, which you don't have to be a graphologist to appreciate, is most important for children. The pen or pencil is one of the basic tools of learning, and a child who can write well is at a great advantage.

It is one thing to allow a skill like hand-writing to atrophy in middle-age; it would be unforgiveable if it were neglected at an early age.

Fortunately, handwriting, unlike the study of classics, is not about to disappear from the school curriculum. Although teachers may be rather kinder these days – fewer raps over the knuckles, less rigid insistence that even the naturally left-handed should be obliged to *write right handed – they still* believe that writing is an esential part of a child's education.

But do they teach it sufficiently thoroughly? Mrs Rosemary Sassoon, who has been in the forefront of a recent revival of interest in the teaching of handwriting, believes not.

Mrs Sassoon, whose *Practical Guide to Children's Handwriting* (Thames and Hudson £4.95) was published last year, stresses the vital importance of teaching children good habits early on.

Her book tackles the mechanics of handwriting in an impressively detailed way. It also makes some very simple points, such as the importance of posture, a good writing surface, light, the position of the paper and above all, grip.

Any parent who watches his or her offspring struggling away trying to write a thank-you letter to Auntie crouched in some crabbed position, head almost horizontal, pen gripped with knuckle-whitening force, will appreciate the importance of these things.

Mrs Sassoon, while emphasizing the need for this basic training, also insists on respecting the child's right to develop its own style. Her book is pure common sense, and should be essential reading for every primary school teacher.

Even in these days of word-processors and video display units, there will be times when we find ourselves marooned, away from all that soothing technology, and obliged to communicate by putting pen to paper. If some of us may be found wanting in these circumstances, we can at least do our best to ensure that our children suffer no such handicap.

Rupert Morris

Mike Abrahams



Donald Jackson, scribe to the Crown Office at the House of Lords, "writes" a word picture

Calligraphy may be just what the doctor ordered

Writing, according to the late Alfred Fairbank, one of Britain's most celebrated exponents of penmanship, is "a dance of the pen".

His love of the art shines through his many published observations: "To write with grace is friendly and generous and adds a little to the virtues of civilized life."

A little pretentious, some might say, but others would agree wholeheartedly that anything which brings a degree of charm and style to life has to be applauded.

Fairbank, who died in 1982, produced his famous *Handwriting Manual* in 1932 and is widely credited with playing a leading role in popularising italic handwriting in schools in the 1950s. Tens of thousands of copies of his book have been sold and he is reckoned to have trained at least 1,000 teachers the skill of handwriting.

Today, many regard penmanship as the Cinderella of the craft world; it is fostered by a few enthusiasts and societies run chiefly by volunteers and it is given scant attention in schools. It is no longer regared as of particular relevance in a society increasingly being treated to high tehnology advances by the video recorder and prersonsal computer manufactrurers.

The same goes for the art of lettering. Following the publication last year of a report by the Craft Study Centre in Bath on the practice, development and teaching of lettering in Britain this centre, the Society of Scribes and Illuminators (SSI) concluded that for economic and educational reasons design skills in all spheres of lettering were fast disappearing and lettering was often unintelligently handed.

"What is being done to remedy the situation? Very little. The report argues that fewer people are applying for a diminishing number of apprenticeships and that in the majority of our art schools lettering is being taught patchily and with little depth.

"Even if better opportunities existed for a training in lettering, it is not clear where the teachers come from, for little training has been available for close on 20 years."

But the ability to write legibly, neatly and with a flourish that reveals a love of form and shape is not a dying art. While the numbers remain small, more and more people are learning formally how to write properly, and according to Sue Cavendish secretary of the SSI, even realising how therapeutic it can be.

"We have, for example, a lot of housewives showing interest in handwriting," she says, "and it certainly makes a change from Valium."

The society's membership has grown considerably in recent years – from about 500 in 1977 to 1,800 today, and the vast majority are hobbyists learning the calligrapher's art to be able to produce anything from a wedding invitation to, in the case of the substantial number of doctors who are members, a readable prescription.

And there is nothing nicer, says Ms Cavendish, than receiving a letter written in a fine hand using a proper fountain pen.

The world of discerning handwriters

There is also nothing difficult or expensive in acquiring the basic tools of the trade. Writing with a quill on vellum is for the expert caligrapher – a fountain pen with a broad nib and good quality paper is all that is needed for the amateur.

And the group that could be of most use to the beginner is the Society for Italic Handwriting. For an annual subscription of £6 (£3 for children and full-time students) the newcomer to the art can enter the world of the discerning handwriter.

The society says: "Italic handwriting is a simple, modern and elegant way to write. It is simple enough to be taught to young children, and modern enough for the needs of today. At the same time, its elegant letter forms offer the pleasures of craftsmanship to the discriminating writer."

Dr Arthur Osley, editor of the society's journal, bridles at any suggestion that italic handwriting is "beautiful script". It is, he says, and extraordinarily versatile way of writing "Whether you want to write posh or just draw up a laundry list".

The society has a diverse and

Turn to page 28

This is the ultimate gift for his nibs

When the writing paper got thinner and the lavatory paper thicker you could tell that Nancy Mitford's Radlett family were having a hard time. Had she been writing *Love in a Cold Climate* today she might have added that when the fountain pens got fatter things were looking up again. Pens to curl your fingers round are the status symbol of the 1980s.

The name to conjure with is still Mont Blanc, who make the fattest, blackest fountain pen of all. James Bond had one in *Octopussy*, only it squirted acid instead of ink. Design directors wield one to make sure they are not confused with accountants, who go for slimline gold. Anyone who cares about prestige wears his Mont Blanc and his Church's shoes. It doesn't much matter what happens in between.

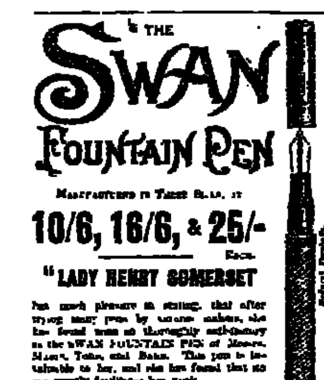
Usually, such pens are bought for gifts for men. According to Liberty's, a woman finds £125 for an eminently loseable accessory difficult to justify for herself, and in any case, in a small hand it feels like writing with a Corona Corona. For women there is a version which is pleasantly plump rather than fat, and much easier to to hold when you sign the bill for £86.

The feminine touch, as been vital factor in the recovery of one of the most famous names in pens – Waterman. Since the invention by Lewis Edson Waterman of the first leakproof pen in 1884, the company soared to success and might never have come down to earth had it not been for bigger and better aircraft. When pressurized cabins were introduced the unthinkable happened – pens that had flown with Lindberg and Johnson blotted their copybook and leaked.

So fountain pens floundered and Baron Bich, maker of the Bic ball point, bought Waterman US in 1954. The European end struggled on in France and was sinking with £500,000 losses when Francine Gomez became its third woman president in 1969. This year, when Waterman celebrated its centenary it had become the largest pen company in Europe with sales worth more than 200 million French francs in 100 countries.

It makes five million fountain pens a year, to three million ball points, a trend which is repeated by other pen manufacturers. Even in schools fountain pens are reappearing now that teachers have realised that real joined-up writing produced by fountain pens is a more useful asset than the scribble which results from ball points.

Ink cartridges have made pen filling less messy, too, although pupils still manage to devise ways of dousing themselves as indelibly as possible.



Pen advertising in 1896.

To meet the new, young market, manufacturers are producing fun and fashion pens for under £2. Parker, who still make a prestige pen in solid 18ct gold at £2,000, have moved mainly into the middle price range and claim 55 per cent of the total market for all writing instruments, estimate for 1984 at £151.4m. Half their business is in bubble packs.

This shift in emphasis has tended to divide the market – Parker in the chain stores versus The Rest in the specialist shops. Pencraft, which has four shops in London, concentrates on Mont Blanc, Waterman, Shaeffer and Cross and also provides a repair service for most makes of pen if the parts are still available. Pens, like cookers, have about a ten year built-in obsolescence.

At the moment, say Pencraft, the fashion is for black or tortoiseshell with 'old fashioned' gold nibs, but there are more adventurous effects, too, for the less conservative – a cobalt blue Waterman at £86 or bands of green grey and black lacquer, like stratified rock, for £55, gift packed with writing paper and envelopes – one of Shaeffer's special promotions at the moment. It's tough in the middle of the pen men.

Paper, too has been undergoing a transformation. The industry started in China in about 105 AD and took 1,000 years to reach Europe and another 500 or so to cross the Atlantic. But now the only manufacturer concentrating exclusively on paper made from 100 per cent cotton fibres (the length of fibre gives finer quality) is Crane & Co of Massachusetts, whose ranges are stocked by Alastair Eliott Lockhart of Walton Stationery Company, 97 Walton Street, London SW3.

Crane had began its business in 1801 and in 1842 started to make paper for American bank notes. It was a customer writing to order 'more of that bond paper' who coined the term 'Bond' which is now used throughout the paper industry.

Fine paper is expensive and cotton fibre costs more than the usual mixture of cotton lint and bleached woodpulp, but Cranes have a neat way of proving their worth by breaking down the actual costs of writing a professional letter.

The total for each letter, they estimate, is $4.17 and of this the dictator's time costs 22.8 per cent, secretarial time 28.5 per cent, nonproductive labour 7.7 per cent, fixed charges 25.7 per cent, mailing cost 6.7 per cent, filing cost 5 per cent, materials 3.6 per cent. On this basis materials, which include carbon paper, copy machine paper, typewriter ribbon and writing paper, cost 15 cents. Whatever the percentages, the actual cost of Crane paper is from £15.33 to £73 per 100 sheets, compared with one of the best known British business writing papers, Conqueror at £9.43 per 500 sheets and Connoisseur, new this year, £14.02 per 500. Both these are made at Stowford Mill, near Dartmoor, by Wiggins Teape, papermakers for nearly 200 years and Britain's largest paper exporter.

Originally specialists in hand made papers, the company now produces one of the largest ranges of plain and coloured, smooth and textured, tracing and coated papers for commercial use, all available at Paperpoint, 130 Long Acre, London WC2. If you can print on it, they make it – even a waterproof plastic 'paper' to resist downpours and no doubt tea-stains on building sites, and a goatskin parchment used for legal certificates, guaranteed to last for 500 years, presumably while the lawyers draw them up.

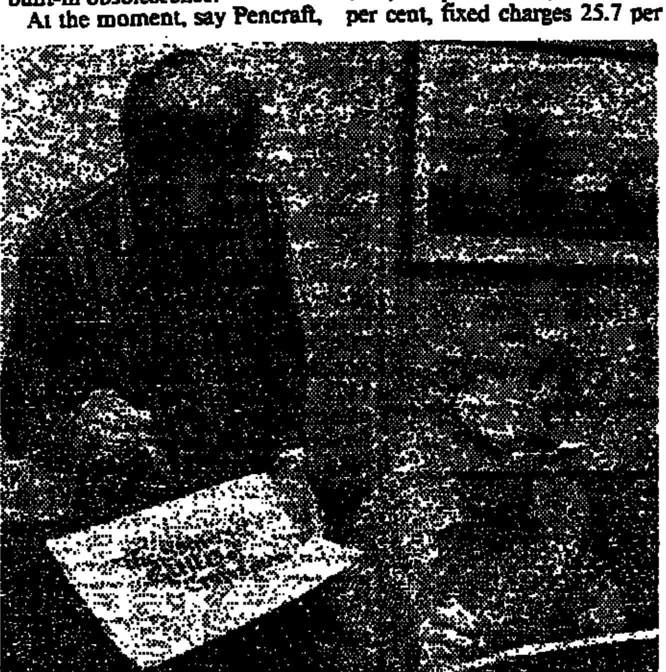
The choice of inks has widened, too – Mont Blanc and Waterman produce several colours in addition to blue and black at about £1.60 for a 2oz bottle and Walton Stationery has its own range at £2.99 which includes a rich burgundy and dark green, snapped up, with their rosewood wax seals at £10 each with up to three initials, by Neiman Marcus in Dallas.

Surprisingly America is just as conventional as Britain in its formal letter etiquette and makes nanny-ish remarks about using only white (they also allow ecru) for formal correspondence. But without coloured paper by the pound and without Hunkydory and Camden Graphics and Two-Can and Millimetre producing well designed individual cards to replace the outmoded boxed notelets, young letter writers might not exist at all.

There is still room for development. Alastair Eliott Lockhart would like to see the raised effect of thermoplastic printing used for fun letterheads and invitations rather than as a poor imitation of hand engraving. Like inexpensive wine, he says, there is nothing wrong with it until you know what the best is like.

In fact, paper terminology has a lot in common with wine. Connoisseurs look for crispness, strength, good colour and exact specifications as a potection against fraud and forgery – a sort of appellation controllé to make quite sure that your word is as good as your bond.

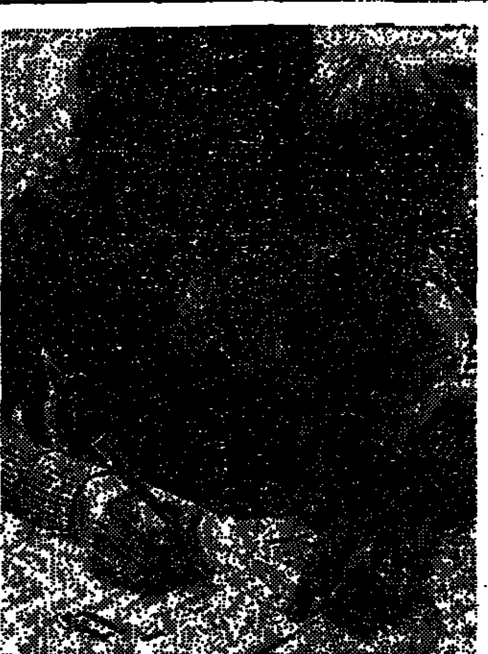
Beryl Downing



The Bishop of Bath and Wells, the Rt. Rev. John Bickersteth (seated), is taking calligraphy lessons from Bristol Polytechnic lecturer Malcolm Drake in an evening class specially organised at the Bishop's Palace in Bristol.

Richard and Sally Greenhill







First steps in the art of writing: children are shown the importance of posture, a good writing surface, light, the position of the paper, and a good grip

Writing is just what the doctor ordered

Continued from page 27

international membership including school teachers, graphic artists, academic institutions, companies, rank amateurs and people in prison. There are no membership qualifications.

"People find it can be an enrichment to write properly. it is simple. you don't need any intellectual skills or expensive equipment and people with no particular pretensions can get great pleasure from it. Children living in depressed areas. for example. seem to do well at italic handwriting."

Why there has been a resurgence in this country in interest in penmanship is difficult to establish. Ms Cavendish believes that part of the answer is a backlash against the increasingly impersonal age of the video screen. pushbutton tehnology and instant print-outs that leave little room for individual imagination.

Dr Osley says: "There are some indications of renewed interest. but I think that they are not obviously explicable.

"It could be the result of a return to more formal methods of teaching and a greater importance placed upon reading and writing and the ability to be able to count up to ten".

But the apparent revival has been sufficient to arouse the pen company Osmiroid into sponsoring the society's scheme to expand the number of local workshops it organizes around the country. The aim is to treble the number of Osmiroid approved lecturers from the present figure of 12.

Sir Patrick Nairne, the society's chairman, says the aims of the society would be more vigorously fostered in a way that would widen the recognition of the value of the italic hand. And the society has been assured by Osmiroid that the commercial aspects of the scheme would be "strictly subordinate".

Anything that furthers the art will be welcomed by Dr Osley, who has in the past railed against what he believes is ill-disciplined teaching in schools. In his obituary of Alfred Fairbank, he attacked "lunatic fads" in schools including "creative writing" in which handwriting was picked up as a by-product.

He wrote: "In the last few years, when the throw-away ball-point was already becoming obsolescent and an affront to conservation, we have seen signs of reaction against pedagogic anarchy, so that there is some propect that interst in handwriting in schools may revive. When that happens, Fairbank will come into his own again."

Edward Townsend

● *The Society of Scribes and Illuminators, The Secretary, c/o The British Crafts Centre, 43, Earlham Street, London WC2H 9LD. The Society for Italic Handwriting, Gay Pierpoint, Secretary, 4 Knifton Court, Mimms Hall Road, Potters Bar, EN6 3DA.*

Shaeffers have arranged a demonstration of Calligraphy by Fiona Greenwood on November 20 and 21 from 11-3 at W. H. Smith, Holborn Circus.

The graphologist may have your job in his hands

Graphology, the technique of assessing character by handwriting, is one of those pursuits, half science and half art, that people are inclined to take seriously despite their better judgment.

It is a bit like astrology that way: there are degrees of obsession and of belief or disbelief on a wide scale; but even the most sceptical are likely to find themselves paying attention when the subject comes up. Just as everyone, like it or not, has a star sign, so near-universal literacy means that we all use handwriting and find it impossible to deny altogether the proposition that our handwriting might reveal some hitherto undiscovered aspect of our inner selves

For some, graphology is a hobby: but. again on the analogy of the astrologer, there are those who have studied the subject in great depth and manage to practise it for a living. There is even an Institute of Graphology whose graduates are thought by some captains of industry at least to be that much better equipped for scrutinising job applications and the like.

As there are fashionable astrologers there are fashionable handwriting experts: one stylish young lady was described in a recent newspaper interview as "graphologist to the stars".

The use of graphology in industry is spreading, particularly for top managerial positions. A minimum of 20 lines of handwriting on plain paper is required, and the evidence with a magnifying glass. Not all candidates are warned that their handwriting will be so used, and even personnel managers who are satisfied with graphology admit that the results should be treated with caution.

One management consultant who uses graphology says that if his analysis shows anything as serious as criminal tendencies or sexual problems he will telephone his opinion to the company concerned rather than put anything in writing.

Many of the more obvious principles of graphology seem to stem from a kind of intuitive common sense approach or an eye for analogy. It is somehow persuasive that slanting to the left will indicate an introverted attitude to life while the more outgoing will slant to the right; or that upright writing might signify confidence and optimism while the reverse might warn of a writer who was low in self-esteem.

Often the use of graphology verges on the para-medical, with certain kinds of blurring and broken letters thought to indicate paranoia and a variety of physical conditions affecting virtually all the major organs and systems of the body.

The Sunday Times reported not long ago on an extraordinarily high incidence of twins at a school near Belfast. With 10 pairs of twins to cope with, six of them identical, teachers routinely compared handwriting to determine which twin was which.

Techniques developed at the University of Birmingham suggest the Irish people can be identified by their handwriting. Tom Davis, a lecturer in the English department, tested techniques worked out by one of his students, Anne Lawson, with good results. Two of seven samples of handwriting were correctly identified as the only Irish ones: one who was suspected of Irishness was not, however, and, worst of all, the handwriting of *The Times* correspondent who set the test was judged "peculiar".

The "Irishness" of handwriting is thought to descend from the Gaelic and from the "uncial" and "half-uncial" rounded letter forms used in early Latin and Greek manuscripts. Mr Davis's interest in graphology also extends to the identification or authentication of famous authors: among his triumphs are two letters from D. H. Lawrence.

Some of the expressions used by graphologists are both evocative and amusing: there are "felon's claws", "cat's paws" and even an "embezzler's oval". *The Times* Diary went through a phase of analysing signatures: Mrs Thatcher "would make a good orchestra conductor" and Michael Foot did "everything according to preconceived plans".

In the 1950s, teachers decided to abolish instruction in handwriting as such at most schools; many are now convinced that was a mistake. The most intelligent pupils can find themselves crippled by poor handwriting, or by finding handwriting more difficult than it has to be because there has been no instruction in fundamentals of posture, lighting or even how to grip a pencil or pen.

"Some children are miserably aware that their handwriting betrays their sense of failure not only to teachers but future employers", *The Times* noted recently.

Significantly, the University of Reading has scheduled a conference on the teaching of handwriting this month. Top of the agenda is "a handwriting policy for school – its implications for the primary school". Another speaker will challenge the conference with the proposition that "from today handwriting is dead".

Handwriting experts have long been in demand in courts of law, although their testimony has by no means gone unquestioned, nor survived all challenges. The controversy is at least 60 years old, as the ruminations of a A Legal Correspondent in *The Times* in February 1922 make clear.

"There is no kind of expert evidence which is more vital in some trials than that of handwriting", he wrote, "and there is no kind of expert evidence which is more likely to arouse anxieties in the minds of a jury . . .

"In murder trials it is, of course, the practice of counsel to pour contempt upon it, and, unfortunately, there are ample precedents of the failure and mistakes of handwriting experts to justify an advocate's criticisms."

Several cautionary tales followed, with a final recommendation that an abortive French attempt to form an association of handwriting experts be revived on the grounds that "it is not in the interests of justice that the evidence of those who are really skilled in handwriting should be discredited by their inability to produce proof of training and experience".

Tony Samstag

Word processors have set us free says the scribe

Calligraphy is a tactile pleasure. People who are committed to this graphic pleasure talk with loving voices as though describing a caress. The touch of pen, quill, or brush on paper, vellum or parchment is just that. The enthusiasm in eyes and voices is inspiring and one can well understand why, once seduced, calligraphy becomes a passionate interest.

Donald Jackson is a person at whose feet others sit on both sides of the Atlantic. The Australians too have caught the infection and one woman, when last he was in Perth, telephoned to say it wasn't far from Tokio so she would come to a workshop. She did.

He is a man without pretentions but his own dedication, talent and enthusiasm hit the visual consciousness at just the right moment in the 1970a when we were reacting against machine-made marvels.

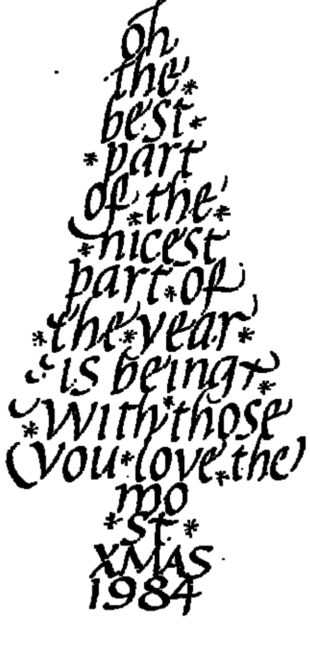
With a scholarship to art college at 13 he graduated from the Bolton School of Art and went on to postgraduate work at the Central and Goldsmiths' Colleges in London. Since 1964 he has been Scribe to Her Majesty's Crown Office at the House of Lords.

There are still scrolls for city charters, for the Duke of Edinburgh's Awards, for letters patent for peerages under the Great Seal to be prepared.

After the usual hungry students' patch he has been teaching calligraphy at Camberwell School of Art, but in 1973 he borrowed the money for an excursion fare to the US and set off with a bundle of work under his arm to try his luck. The success was astonishing for he not only sold everything but discovered that the Americans were some decades behind what we were achieving in calligraphy here. People now come to his American workshops at the California State University among other venues.

"The Americans' very naievety means they have a new approach. Most stimulating. No class consciousness, for they don't relate calligraphy with work by monks for medieval princes of state or church. Nor even of dear old ladies in provincial British cottages doing rhyme sheets. Without history to keep them earthbond they have caught up to our best standards in ten years."

Photographs of a workshop shows 200 people sitting at easels in a huge gym. His followers have forsaken jobs as debt collectors, bouncers and even a *PhD in Gothic* architecture.





Wishing you a happy Christmas: Lilly Lee says it with letters

"It's specially liberating to women. A sense of personal achievement, a freedom of expression. . ."

He uses quills, some Victorian, and sometimes reed pens. "they last for ever because so little of them wears out on any surface", he says. No need to catch a swan or goose but perhaps an idea to make friends with the Warden at Slimbridge Wildfowl Trust? He also mixes his own inks and has some centuries old Chinese ink blocks still in their original wrapping.

"Word processors have set us free. Commercial information can be given to machines and we can enjoy the act of writing again. It's some 150 years ago that western man learned to write en masse and lost writing as an art. Calligraphy is an art and is to ordinary writing what walking is to flying. Other arts, like pottery, have got up from *the kitchen table into museums.* Calligraphy is doing the same thing but even the Craft Centre doesn't have examples up on its walls as though they were pictures.

"The act of putting quill to paper is a commitment. No mistakes are possible so one must concentrate. Quite hard work. Some of my students are shy in case the act reveals some private facet of their own souls. But why not be proud to be oneself?"

Donald Jackson feels this is a universal language and hopes, before too long to have a paperback edition of his book (now out of print) "The Story of Writing".

Lilly Lee came to calligraphy in rather a different way although one would have supposed that her Chinese ancestry made this art a natural. *To go back some generations* her great grandfather went to Canada to help build the Canadian Pacific Railway. He sent money home and eventually his son (Lilly's grandfather) joined him.

Her parents really did have a Chinese Laundry in California and hoped their daughter would do something honourably safe – *like becoming a nurse.* It took a lot of courage for this American-born daughter to decide not to follow their wishes.

She travelled – Europe, Australia, (where she lived for three years) Hongkong, Nepal, Afghanistan where she litterally earned her bread by calligraphy. But she had no formal art training and felt, with her ancestral origins, something was sadly missing.

Speaking Cantonese but unable to write it she turned to western calligraphy and took a course in calligraphy and book binding at the Digby Stuart College at Roehampton and has recently become a member of *the Society of Scribes and* Illuminaries.

Things – meaning daily bread – don't come easily to the freelance artist. Acts of faith are what carry them through and she has just made the courageous jump into her own studio at Unit 357 Clerkenwell Workshops, 31 Clerkenwell Close, London EC1 (01-608 0116). Her commissions are less impressive than Donald Jackson's but his help, encouragement and inspiration and her own talents will see her through.

She works with steel pens and brushes. Designs can be for stunning Christmas cards (silk screened), poems, graphics for shops and general commercial work like letter headings.

She too feels that the materials should suit the job, but unlike Donald Jackson, who has to turn work down, she has her reputation to make in menus, book jackets, record sleeves.

Diana Pollock

The way to a perfect style

If, like me, you are described as a writer in *The Times* telephone directory, it must be true. Even so, it struck me the other day how little I write, apart from short bursts of "4 pts pls" or "*Bread batteries miaoumix-/munchies*".

Indeed, people have begged me to type rather than write my communications to them. A lifetime of taking shorthand has proved as lethal as the writing of prescriptions to the hand I was rather carelessly taught in my youth. What should I do?

Inspiration comes with a selection of books on the art and craft of writing. *The Craft of Calligraphy*, by Dorothy Mahoney (Pelham Books, £7.95) is written by a pupil of the great founder of modern calligraphy, Edward Johnston. He gives a loving account of the master, who gave up studying to be a doctor at the age of 26, and encouraged by the architect W R Lethaby, a friend of William Morris, studied art and in particular the art of lettering.

In 1899 Johnston was appointed to teach lettering at the Central School, London and Dorothy Mahoney studied with him at the design school of the Royal College of Art in the 1920s.

She herself was appointed tutor to the lettering class, when Johnston's health declined, from 1939 to 1953, when, as she says: "Robin Darwin, then Principal, introduced typography and closed the calligraphy class." Sadly, many other schools of art followed Darwin's example.

Dorothy Mahoney's book gives all the practical details of tools, materials, nibs, pens (the section on how to make a quill pen makes it look quite easy, which one's mind says is not so).

In addition there is the most inspirational collection of calligraphy, from Johnston himself – from a demonstration on a blackboard using plain chalk, examples of the special type he designed for the exclusive use of London Transport to illustrations, frontispieces, and a collection of letters sent to Dorothy Mahoney by her friends, all of whom (it seems) write beautiful, individual hands full of character.

Painting for Calligraphers, by Maria Angel (Pelham Books, £15) is a companion volume to Dorothy Mahoney's book, and the two authors are friends and collaborators. Marie Angel is a miniaturist and scribe, and her book is aimed at the artist who wishes to paint in miniature, possibly in association with a calligrapher.

Illustrations range from the earliest known work of printed music in red and black, the "Constance" Gradual in the British Library, dated about 1473, to her own exquisite paintings, many of animals and flowers. Initial letters such as the C for Chameleon, the beast neatly curled within the half circle of the letter, are a delight. The use of gelatine, gold powder, egg yolk, with distilled water, or beaten egg white remind one of the ingredients of a benign spell by a white witch.

Certainly the paintings are magical, but there are practical details on where to get the materials in a handy list at the back of the book.

Judy Martin's *The Complete Guide of Calligraphy* (Phaidon, £9.95) is another beautifully produced and printed book, pointing out that while in oriental cultures calligraphy is one of the purest, and most highly esteemed art forms, based on centuries of tradition, we in the West are now taught to use computers.

There are some splendid illustrations in colour, many taken from the eastern tradition, from the Koran, where the depiction of the human body was forbidden, resulting in a wonderful flowering of the calligrapher's art, to the Japanese brush drawn characters in which the divide between art and writing cannot be seen.

Joan Freeman's *Lettering and Calligraphy* (Batsford, £7.95) is a very good teaching guide, from the simple act of fixing the paper to a board to the choice of pen, how to fill the nib with ink (a lost art for the Biro generation) and then on to practice, practice, practice. There are useful tips on how to remove mistakes. Nothing you can do if you have no "eye" for it, as they all remark. However, you can train your eye with practice and patience, or so Joan Freeman tells us, giving illustrations of good and bad spacing.

Learning Calligraphy: a book of lettering, design and history, by Margaret Shepherd, (Thorsons Publishers, Wellingborough, £5.95) is a paperback, written entirely in a beautiful, simple script, in black and white thoughout, working its way through Roman, Celtic, Gothic, Bookhand, Italic and numerals, each with a guide page opposite in which to practice.

There is some splendid fun in adding "swashes" to *italic* capitals – but there is one golden rule – if you are using two or three letter styles (not, more than three) the historically oldest script comes first on the page, ie Roman precedes Italic.

She has even kindly included a page for the left handed, saying that "traditionally calligraphy will be challenging, but *not impossible*".

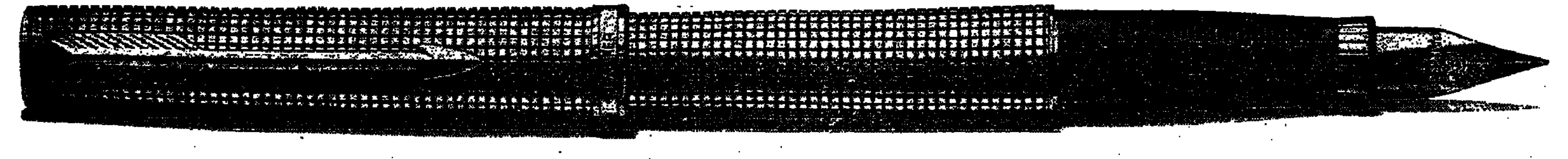
Even if you are not left handed, it might be the motto one wrote out first, and put above the desk. There are some wonderful examples of Edward Johnston quoted by Dorothy Mahoney pronouncements, each of which should be tried out by the apprentice:

- *"You cannot give a specimen of your writing any more than you can give a specimen of your smile".*
- *"When in doubt, use Roman capitals".*
- *"Writing between ruled lines is like trying to dance in a room your own height".*
- *"A flourish is no good unless it flourishes, as cracking a whip is no good unless it cracks".*
- *"Exaggerate, or be normal".* We can but try.

Philippa Toomey



هكذا من الأصل



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PARKER

FOOTBALL: EIGHT GOALS ARE NOT ENOUGH FOR DISAPPOINTED PLAYERS

Iron fist and velvet glove hold the key to England's fortunes

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

As England look through their binoculars towards Mexico and the summer of 1986, there is but one speck of doubt on the lens. Bobby Robson's side will qualify for the next World Cup finals, and with appreciable ease, only if both Ray Wilkins and Bryan Robson remain free of injury.

The pair, now indisputably of world class, are irreplaceable. In their absence England would be without their velvet glove and iron fist, their cloak and their dagger, and only then would *Northern Ireland, their next* opponents in February, and particularly Romania, genuinely threaten the leaders of group three.

Bryan Robson, the captain, has no peer in this country as a predator behind the front two. His namesake, Stewart of Arsenal, has similar power and courage but does not, as yet, score as prolifically for his club. Bryan, with another three goals against Turkey on Wednesday, has claimed five in the last three internationals.

Wilkins a former captain, has no rival as the central promoter behind him. Hoddle is not as *commanding and Hazard, an*other candidate from Tottenham Hotspur, is not yet experienced enough to play such an influential role. Wilkins was responsible for creating six of England's eight goals in Istanbul's Inonu Stadium.

In overwhelming Finland and inflicting on Turkey their heaviest defeat in their national stadium, England proved that they are more than ruthless enough to dismiss the weakest of European countries. The *efficiency of those two victories* suggests that they are emerging as a side capable of challenging the strongest nations around the globe.

The players are beginning to believe it, too. Even though they responded dramatically to Bobby Robson's half-time instructions "to go and crush them", they felt they did not play as well as they can. Far from floating on euphoria, they were disappoinnted not to have scored a dozen.

Turkey proved to be astonishingly feeble but, as Woodcock confirmed, they were potentially troublesome. "When I was at Cologne, I remember the West Germans saying that they feared going there most of all. We knew we had to put them under early and consistent pressure and, in so doing, we made them look far worse than they are."

There is one criticism. It is of the casual Williams, who disobeyed orders and upset England's balance late in the first half by not staying on the right of midfield. He needed only to do so to be reasonably *assured of securing his place*, but he can now have few complaints if he is omitted.

Once it was the left side that seemed empty without Rix, Cowans or Devonshire, but Barnes, who is more than a winger, fills that gap with increasing authority and confidence.

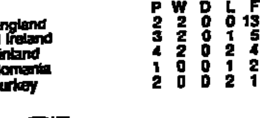
With first Lee and now probably Williams drifting out of contention, the problem is now on the right. Hoddle remains an attractive solution.

As the back four and Shilton have not been seriously disturbed for the last three hours of international plans, there would be little point in disrupting their growing understanding. That idea would include retaining Anderson, more lively in attack than the right back he replaced, Duxbury, and at least as dependable in defence.

Hateley's knee operation yesterday was described as a "perfect success" by the surgeon, and assuming Hateley has fully recovered in time he will return for the Irish game, replacing the aging and honest Withe, renewing his partnership with Woodcock. The frailty of Francis continues to weaken his claims, but there can be few more fearsome sights for tiring defenders than to see him preparing to come on for the closing stages.

● The former West German manager, Jupp Derwall, has refused to confirm a report that he has resigned as the adviser to the Turkish national team

Group three



	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
England	2	2	0	0	13	0	4
N Ireland	3	2	0	1	5	4	4
Finland	4	2	0	2	4	8	4
Romania	1	0	0	1	2	3	0
Turkey	2	0	0	2	1	10	0

Stein unveils his masterpiece

By Hugh Taylor

Scotland's stylish victory over Spain, which makes them favourites in group seven to qualify for the World Cup finals in Mexico, was described yesterday by Jock Stein as "the best achieved in my time as *manager". Miguel Muñoz, the* dismayed coach of a fine Spanish side who lost 3-1 at Hampden, went further. "This was", he said, "a masterpiece of technique by the Scots."

Indeed it was, and at long last an overjoyed crowd watched entranced as British players outclassed skilled Latins in the smooth arts, brilliant control and lethal finishing which we had for too long believed to be a Continental monopoly. What pleased Stein most was the fact that his team achieved a victory as convincing as any in a decade of *international football against qual*ity opposition. "There is still a long way to go," he said, "but the players showed they are a match for the best."

Stein revealed that Dalglish, scorer of the all-importan third goal, "nearly did not play. He did not train during the week because of his knee injury." Dalglish, winning his 96th cap at the age of 33 equalled Denis Law's record of 30 international goals with a goal of Brazilian flamboyance.

It was a heady mixture of class, ambition and confidence that took Scotland to the top of their group, with maximum points from the matches played and an encouraging goal difference of six-one. Stein felt victory came mainly as the result of an all-round team effort but his Spanish counterpart was impressed with what he called the "superlative skills and perfect technique" of Daglish, Cooper and Bett.

Dalglish: injury put his place in jeopardy

Such was the quality of the victory that Stein and his players are confident they will not have to settle for anything except leading place in the group. A win or even a draw in Spain in February would make Scotland odds-on favourites. This match may throw some light on the one nagging doubt about the team: is the defence on a par with the other impressive departments?

Group seven

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Scotland	2	2	0	0	6	1	4
Spain	2	1	0	1	4	3	2
Iceland	3	1	0	2	2	5	2
Wales	3	1	0	2	2	5	2

Chance of group double is brighter

By Peter Ball

After England's overwhelming win in Turkey and their own rather more demanding victory over Finland, there was no tendency in the Northern Ireland camp yesterday to start shouting "Bring on the English."

But if they avoided boasting, there was the growing conviction that a double British qualification for the World Cup finals from group three is quite possible. There is also a quiet certainty that England will face stern opposition when they visit Belfast in February.

It is certain that, unlike Turkey, and Finland in their Wembley guise, although not the one they wore at Windsor Park, Northern Ireland will not lay down and surrender. On Wednesday they showed the *essential quality of successful teams*, forcing a win out of an unpromising situation as much through their determination as their ability.

Chances appeared fleetingly and Finland collected a simple goal after 20 minutes. Fears that the game might be slipping away from Ireland as *half time approached without the* equalizer were rebutted in a 10-minute spell either side of half time. First John O'Neill got free at a corner. The the Finnish captain Kymalainen, pushed to the limit by Whiteside's goading presence, snapped under the strain, wrestling down the forward to allow Armstrong to reach his personal target of equalling the Irish international scoring record o 12 goals from the spot.

It was not one of Ireland's more classic displays, but apart from its *one blemish, the booking of* Whiteside, the win gives added zest to the game against England.

The blemish, however, is an important one, for it leaves Whiteside with two bookings and facing the prospect of missing that match unless his appeal against his first booking issued for leaving the pitch to celebrate his goal against Romania, is successful.

So maturely and vibrantly is the young Whiteside playing that if he escapes the ban he could occupy the England back four so successfully *that Ireland may snatch a very* important victory, in February.

Russian hosts

Zurich, (AP) – The Soviet Union have agreed to stage the 1985 World Youth soccer championship after *Chile were unable to meet the* deadline. The Russians were to stage the 1987 tournament, which will probably be moved to South America.

Tall order now for Republic

The Republic of Ireland will need to win their successive home matches against Norway (May 1) and Switzerland (June 2) if they are to retain any hopes of qualifying for the World Cup finals. A 3–0 defeat in Denmark on Wednesday night *left them last but one of five teams* in qualifying group six.

Denmark were aided by the return of their experienced midfield player, Frank Arnesen and two goals from their Verona forward, Preben Elkjaer. A poor back pass from Grealish was intercepted for Elkjaer *to open the account and the same* player made it 2–0 a minute into the second half. Ten minutes from the end Lerby completed the scoring with a shot through the legs of the Irish goalkeeper, Jim McDonagh.

Sweden went to the top of group two with a 3–1 win over previously unbeaten **Portugal**. Robert Prytz scored twice from the penalty spot after Portugal had taken the lead.

Austria achieved a 1–0 win over the **Netherlands** who are now in danger of failing to qualify. Austria won thanks to a goal from the veteran, Jara.

Group two

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sweden	4	2	0	2	7	4	4
Portugal	3	2	0	1	4	4	4
Czechoslovakia	2	1	0	1	5	2	2
W Germany	1	1	0	0	2	0	2
Malta	2	0	0	2	0	8	0

Group five

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hungary	2	2	0	0	5	2	4
Austria	3	2	0	1	4	4	4
Cyprus	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
Netherlands	2	0	0	2	1	3	0

Group six

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Denmark	3	2	0	1	4	1	4
Switzerland	2	2	0	0	2	0	4
Norway	4	1	1	2	2	3	3
Rep of Ireland	3	1	0	2	1	4	2
Soviet Union	2	0	1	1	1	2	1

Wales out in the icy cold of world game

By Clive White

As Wales struggled to beat *Iceland 2-1 on Wednesday evening*, we realized that what we thought was a calamitous defeat for the Welsh in Reykjavik two months earlier was, in fact, a logical one. We tend to use out-of-date values when assessing the chances of teams like Wales.

The rest of the world have closed the gap on them and in many cases – like Iceland, for instance – have caught up. Iceland were without their four West German-based players and, of those who played, most had not kicked a ball in the two months since their season ended. Yet at Ninian Park they were able to run the Welsh a close second.

In Gudjohnsen, the sort of lively midfield instigator the Welsh could do with, and Petursson, a tall, well-balanced forward, Iceland had the most eye-catching players on view. But since they play for Anderlecht and Feyenoord respectively, it should come as no great surprise.

From the outset of group seven, the Welsh at their best, we now know, had only marginally more chances than Iceland of separating *the big two, Scotland and Spain*. The odd thing is that Wales have four players who would walk into an England squad, if not the team – Rush, Hughes, Ratcliffe and Southall. But the rest lag behind and seriously reduce the overall quality.

Their most serious deficiency is in midfield, where they lack a player with wit and another with teeth. It is indicative of their midfield problems that Rush, the most prolific goal-scorer in modern football, has scored only seven goals in 21 games for Wales. Until this department is properly filled they will never fully reap the fruits of the Rush-Hughes partnership.

The situation is not helped by the fact that four of the team are playing irregular reserve team football and three of them are in midfield. Davies, who less than two years ago *thrilled* 100,000 people at an FA Cup Final, is wasting away in Manchester United's Central League side. His last three games for them have been at right back.

Dunn returns to Scarborough to take charge

Harry Dunn, who for many years was Scarborough's most loyal and consistent player, has been named manager of the Gola League club in succession to John Cottam (Paul Newman writes). He has been appointed on a part-time basis and is starting the job without a contract.

Dunn, now aged 36, missed only 22 of Scarborough's 482 matches during their 11-year membership of the Northern Premier League. He had a short spell as caretaker *manager last year, but joined* Frickley Athletic after the appointment of Cottam.

● Maidstone United, who have made a poor start to their defence of the Goal League championship, are continuing to make sweeping changes in their playing staff. Two forwards, Dingwall and Green, have been sold for £3,000 each to Dartford and Croydon repectively, and Thompson, the captain, has been dropped.

● Two former Bristol City players have joined Gola League clubs. Economou, a midfield player, has signed for Yeovil Town and Baddeley, a full back, has signed for Wealdstone.

Smith: no contract

Plymouth pick Smith



Dave Smith yesterday accepted the manager's job at Plymouth Argyle, where he will work initially without a contract. The former Mansfield and Southend manager, chosen in preference to John Bond *and Malcolm Allison after* John Newman, of Hereford United, had turned down the job, said: "Contracts can be a feather bed for failure as far as managers are concerned."

Smith succeeds John Hore, who guided the third division club to the semi-finals of the FA Cup last season, and was sacked a month ago. Smith's first match in charge will be tomorrow's FA Cup first round tie at home to Barnet.

Denis Mortimer resigned as Luton Town chairman last night over the club's proposed move to Milton Keynes.

Luton's shareholders gave Mortimer a rough ride at the club's annual meeting recently when he cut proceedings short to halt a discussion on the Milton Keynes project. He said yesterday that Luton was probably unable to maintain a first division football club. "Or does it want one?"

Fulham asked the Football Association last night to intervene in their dispute with Chelsea over the transfer of Gordon Davies to Stamford Bridge. Fulham demanded a £300,000 fe for the Welsh forward, but a Football League tribunal ruled that he could move for £90,000, plus £35,000 after 35 first team appearances.

Everton's 26-year-old central defender, Mark Higgins, was forced to retire yesterday because of a persistent groin injury.

Policeman's lot not an easy one



No other manager of a team in tomorrow's first round of the FA Cup can ever have quite the problems that Vic Rouse frequently has to overcome. "Sometimes one or more of my players just fail to turn up", he said. "I always have to reckon with the possibility of someone not coming. We usually have enough cover, but there have been times when I've arranged for 13 players to go to the ground and we *still end up playing with only 10.*"

Yet Rouse's players are hardly known for being unreliable. They are the Metropolitan Police side, who play in the first division of the Isthmian League and tomorrow entertain Dartford, of the Gola League, in their sixth FA Cup match of the season.

Rouse, a former Crystal Palace goalkeeper, explained: "More and more time is being asked of policemen these days, whether it's for the miners' strike or security duties somewhere else. We can never be sure that players will be available, even in the normal course of their work. If there's a robbery while you're on night shift and you arrest someone for it, you might have to stay all day to appear in court."

Every player is a serving policeman *and* the current *side* includes constables, sergeants and CID men. The team is run on a strictly amateur basis, but Rouse has never lost a player to another club for financial reasons. "They're all proud to be policemen and proud to play for us", he said.

The police have their own sports* ground at East Molesey, Surrey, and £300,000 has recently been spent on improvements. The enclosed football stadium has 1,000 seats and a capacity of 5,000. Isthmian League matches usually attract gates of about 200, but up to 2,000 people are *expected tomorrow.

Rouse took up his full-time post with the police in 1973 after several years in coaching and management in the United States. He has known many of the present side since they were cadets.

The police have already played in five rounds of the Cup and have beaten three clubs of higher status, Leytonstone/Ilford and Harlow Town of the Isthmian premier division, and Welling United of the Southern League premier division. Tomorrow, however, they look certain to be without three key players: Russo, the leading goalscorer for the last three seasons, Cooper, the centre half, and Crinigan, the goalkeeper.

The club have reached this stage only once before, when they lost 9-0 to Northampton Town in 1931, and Rouse sees the game as a rare chance for his team to improve the police's public image. "The police generally have been under pressure recently and we've had some bad publicity", he said. "Now we can show there is another side to policemen and that like anyone else *we can enjoy our sport.*"

Paul Newman

ICE SKATING



Stepping out: Barber and Slater in one of their new outfits

Hardest act to follow on road to Tokyo

By John Hennessy

The British ice dance championship, sponsored by Tuborg at Nottingham this evening, will give an idea whether or not Britain is to retreat into the shadows of the sport with the departure of Torvill and Dean to the professional ranks. Their obvious successors among the six competing couples, short of some act of force majeure, will be their eternal runners-up, Karen Barber and Nicky Slater, once of Altrincham but now based in Richmond.

It might be unwise to expect too much too soon, for all the benefits conferred on Slater and Barber by a *handsome sponsorship from ITV* (£18,000) and a generous grant from the Sports Aid Foundation (£6,000). Until they went to Obersdorf for intensive training for four weeks recently, they had nothing much more to offer than a headful of ideas. Oberstdorf, once the home of Torvill *and Dean, rapidly changed all that*, but time has acted against the Richmond couple in the short term.

Their new free programme and their original set pattern (OSP) creation materialized quickly, but they have hardly been able to hone them into anything like proper *shape. The free dance, in particular,* will grow in character, content and *refinement as the season progresses* and the Mark II presentation at the European Championships in Goteborg in February is likely to be much stronger, as was the "Bolero" of Torvill and Dean last year before *reaching its memorable apotheosis* when it mattered, in the Winter Olympics, a month later.

The Richmond* couple also carry a heavy burden of expectation tonight, having to justify the faith in them of not only ITV and the SAF and their trainer, Jimmy Young, but other distinguished collaborators in what has developed into an absorbing *combined operation.

Betty Callaway, the wise counsellor of Torvill and Dean, has also been consulted by the skaters and their unselfish trainer. She has discerned "a lot of improvement, a lot more attack."

***They have apparently* conceived ambitiously difficult and challenging programmes we never thought possible", according to Miss Barber. We should bear that in mind, too, before perhaps jumping to hasty conclusions tonight, as some people who should know better did last year *on first sight of "Bolero"* and lived to regret it.**

RUGBY LEAGUE

Greenland suspended

By Keith Macklin

Video-tape evidence led to a three-match suspension for Scot Greenland of Keighley, even though he was not among the six players sent off during a second division *match against Wakefield Trinity* last month. The four Wakefield and two Keithley players who were dismissed were dealt with by the Rugby League disciplinary committee on October 25 and later, at a management committee meeting in which video tapes of the game were *viewed, both clubs received sus*pended fines.

In addition, Greenland, and Wakefield's John Thompson, were ordered to appear before yesterday's disciplinary committee meeting as instigators of a brawl which took place in the second half. Thompson *had previously received a two*-match ban after being sent off. Greenland's offence was spotted by the management committee when they watched the video tapes. Thompson has been suspended for three games as well.

This is the second time the League has punished a player for an offence not originally seen by the referee.

A Southen Invicta player, Millington, was suspended for six matches for deliberately kicking a Keighley player on the ground. Also *suspended for six games* was Armstrong, of Carlisle, for a deliberate late stiff arm tackle.

Bell, of Featherstone Rovers, and Kourockin, of Blackpool Borough, were given four-match suspensions.

OTHER SUSPENSIONS: Two matches: K Robinson (Carlisle), P Rose (Hull). One match: A Kinsey (Fulham), P Briscoe (Southend Invicta), M Charchione (Halifax), K Isaacs (Keighley).

MOTOR SPORT

FISA not to reinstate Monaco GP and rally

Paris (AFP) – Efforts to save the Monaco Grand Prix and Monte Carlo Rally, two of the world's best-known motor racing events, came to an abrupt end yesterday.

Jean-Marie Balestre, president of FISA, motor racing's world governing body, said that the events had been struck off next year's world *championship calendar because of* the Monaco Government's "unilateral" decision to break off negotiations yesterday.

The Monaco Government said yesterday that attempts to mediate in the dispute between FISA and the Monaco Automobile Club had *made no progress and Raoul* Biancheri, the Finance Minister, described Mr Balestre's stance as "not really justifiable"

The French Automobile Association, of which Mr Balestre is also president, had demanded a million franc fee for the Monto Carlo Rally's use of French roads and services and FISA objected to a television agreement between the organisers and the American network, ABC.

Mr Balestre said that moves to bar the Monaco club from membership of FISA would continue, thus making it virtually impossible for the two events to be staged in any form next year. No team would dare enter a race staged by the Mediterranean principality which was not sanctioned by FISA for fear of reprisals.

The rally of Sweden will replace *Monte Carlo in the world* championship calendar.

IN BRIEF

Darshaan retires to Irish stud

The Aga Khan's Horse Darshaan has been retired and will stand at his own's Ballymany stud in Ireland. The highlight of his career was victory in the French Derby in June. It is hoped that he will prove a suitable replacement for the Aga Khan's Derby winner Shergar, who disappeared from the County Kildare stud in February 1983.

MOTOR RACING: The Formula One world champion, Niki Lauda, will be competing in a Formula Mondial machine for the first time for 10 years in Sunday's Australin Grand Prix at Calder Park, Melbourne. Other Formula One drivers competing in the race include the former world champion, Keke Rosberg, Andrea de Cesaris and François Hesnault.

SWIMMING: England's squad will attend six meetings in Europe during the first two months of *1985*. They have a training weekend in Blackpool from November 23 to 25, and will swim at Strasbourg (January 18-20), Amersfoot (January 25-27), Paris (February 1-3), Bonn (February 8-10), Berlin (February 12-14) and Barcelona (February 16-17).

HANDBALL: Liverpool, who made a clean sweep of domestic titles last season, provide four players for Britain's first internationals of the season, against Luxembourg at Coventry and Leicester on *November 24 and 25.*

MEN: D Henaghan (Liverpool), M Hegarty (Liverpool, capt), L Forester, S Nones (Liverpool), B Mortley (Ashford Tanners), C Williams (Salford, D O'Sullivan (Refstad), M O'Sullivan (Refstad), T Tropp (Brentwood), P Dempsey (Carlsberg MK 80), S Cullen (Tryst 77), D Hendrick (Brentwood), N Scott (Birkenhead), M Johnson (Mk 80).

WOMEN: S Isles (Wakefield Metros), J Nichols (Robert Jenkins), A Mundell (Strathclyde Satellites), D Carter (Salford), J Wells (Wakefield Metros), H Dobek (Wakefield Metros), H Graham (Strathclyde Satellites), M Fitzpatrick (Robert Jenkins), V Holderness (Robert Kenkins), L Duff (John Wright Ladies), S Hayward (Wakefield Metros, capt), D Bellis (Robert Jenkins), S Williams (Salford), C McNab (Halewood Forum), J Swain (Wakefield Metros), M Chowns (Robert Jenkins).

SPORTS AWARDS: Tessa Sanderson and Sebastian Coe, the Olympic gold medal winners, have won the Sports Writers Association of Great Britain awards for 1984. Miss Sanderson, who won the javelin title, is sportswomen of the year by an overwhelming margin. Coe won with 302 points to Daley Thompson's 286, his fourth such award.

TENNIS

Mind over muscle is the art of the game

By Rex Bellamy
Tennis Correspondent

The European Champions' Championship (EEC) designed as a climax to the European season for players who have roamed the continent winning grand prix tournaments, has not escaped the superficially odd results prevalent in November. Wojtek Fibak has beaten two players ranked above him. Yesterday Ramesh Krishnan beat Yannick Noah 7-6, 6-1. It has been easy to suspect that, at a time of year when muscles are ailing, the thinkers and artists of the game excel.

Fibak's victims were Vijay Amritraj and Andres Gomez, who had to win a tie-break before quelling Fibak's challenge at Wembley last week. Before the Gomez match here, Fibak had been busy packing and arranging to go home to Poland for a holiday with his wife and one of their daughters. "My wife was insisting I should not *make these arrangements*", Fibak told us. "She wanted me to win. But after last week there was no reason to think I would.

"I was surprised. But this week I have found my game. This is how I *used to play a few years ago. In this* match, though, everything went my way. For No 45 in the world to beat No 5, I have to have a good day and he has to have a bad day."

Gomez did have a bad day. He reached the singles and doubles finals at Wembley, came here with a *stiff shoulder*, and has decided that he will play no more until the Masters tournament in January. "Everything went wrong", Gomez said. "This was one of those days. But I don't want to take anything away from Wojek – he played very well."

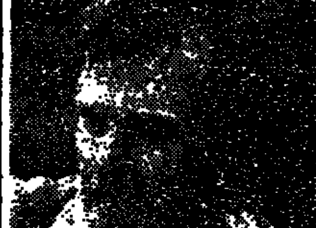
Fibak's next opponent will be Joakim Nystrom, one of the bunch of Swedes playing here in an effort to strengthen their claims for Davis Cup places. The final, against the US, will be played next month in Göteborg on a clay court installed indoors – an expedient used by France two years ago in an unsuccessful attempt to confound John MacEnroe and company.

Nystrom won 6-1, 6-2 against Jose Higueras, who often reacted slowly because he was not seeing the ball well. Higueras has had trouble with his vision for two years. He wears glasses off the court, has just begun to experiment with contact lenses, but uses no optical aids when he plays.

Noah, pestered by abdominal muscles, had not played a tournament since June. He was not quite the acrobatic superman he used to be. Though his first service aced him out of a series of crises before Krishnan pinned him down. Their match was a joy: a David and Goliath act with the familiar punchline. Krishnan seemed to caress the ball, nudging it this way and that with perfect timing – especially when playing volleyed drops. Often reminiscent of Ken Rosewall, he gently created a subtle beauty that was totally appropriate to the birthplace of Frans Hals and Sir Anthony van Dyck.

The first prize, £155,000 is the richest in the game. The tournament is being played in a one-time temple of six-day cycling that has been lavishly transformed into a temple of tennis. In its first two years the ECC leapt to second place in the world (behind the Masters) in terms of indoor crowds – and to third place in Europe for any events, behind Wimbledon and Paris, which both last a week longer.

A Dutch colleague contends that the ECC IS "unique in many ways". Well, strange things are happening. Libor Pimek, who kept Henrik Sundstrom on court for more than three hours, briefly paused in astonishment when a Slazenger ball emerged from a Dunlop can. And a chap carrying two loaded watering cans came into the press bar. He was heading for the potted plants. There has seldom been so much water in a press bar.



Fibak: surprises

Miss Hy moves into top gear to reach final

By Lewine Mair

Patricia Hy, whose drop shot is at once the most lethal and ladylike in *the business*, yesterday defeated Lorrayne Gracie, of Lancashire, 7-5, 6-2, to reach the final of the LTA's $10,000 event at Telford.

Miss Hy's opponent today is Holly Danforth, an American, aged 15, whose semi-final match against Marianne Van Der Torre, of the Netherlands, came as a light relief after the struggle she had against the wily Marie Pinterova, aged 38, the day before.

Miss Gracie, who at 20, is one year older than Miss Hy, smashed and volleyed admirably for much of the match and further hit many spanking ground shots. However, *Miss Hy, of Hongkong, who* was ranked as high as 65 in the world before going to an American university last year, was that bit sharper in every department.

The Lancashire girl did well to get back from 3-5 to 5-5 in the first set, but the second set was not long under way before her opponent, who is working with the former Welsh national coach, Kevin Livesey, moved up a gear and dominated the rest of the match.

Miss Danforth, who still owns what is very much a "schoolgirl" service, moved into the senior game almost by mistake. A row developed when she was unable to turn up for some junior event and this led to her being banned from the girls' national championships.

The North American Open was one tournament in which she would never have played but for the ban

RESULTS: Singles semi-finals: P Hy (Hongkong) bt L Gracie (Lancs) 7-5, 6-2; H Danforth (US) bt M Van Der Torre (Neth) 6-3, 6-3.

FOR THE RECORD

SQUASH RACKETS

MUNICH: West German Open: Final: R Norman (NZ) bt G Brumby (Aus) 9-5, 9-0, 9.0.

UNIVERSITY SPORT

UAU MATCHES: *Rugby Union*: Loughborough 28, Birmingham 9. *Football*: Loughborough 2, Birmingham 2. *Men's hockey*: Loughborough 3, Birmingham 1. *Women's hockey*: Loughborough 4, Birmingham 0. *Netball*: Loughborough 32, Birmingham 26. *Table Tennis*: Loughborough 8, Birmingham 9. *Men's Squash rackets*: Loughborough 3, Birmingham 2. *Women's Squash rackets*: Loughborough 5, Birmingham 0. *Women's Badminton*: Loughborough 6, Birmingham 3.

BOXING

SALNERNO: *European bantamweight title*: C de Leva (It) bt J Feeney (GB) on points.

FOOTBALL

WEST GERMAN LEAGUE: Arminia Bielefeld 1, Kaiserslautern 1; Bayern Munich 2, Bochum 2; Cologne 1, Borussia Mönchengladbach 5; Fortune Düsseldorf 3, Entracht Frankfurt 1; Werder Bremen 7, Karlsruhe 1. Waldhof v Schalke postponed; Bayer Verdingen 2, Bayer Leverkusen 1; Borussia Dortmund 3, Eintracht Brunswick 1; Stuttgart 1, Hamburg 1.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Montreal Canadiens 4, Edmonton Oilers 2; Chicago Black Hawks 6, *New York Rangers* 4; *Quebec Nordiques* 7, St Louis Blues 3; Buffalo Sabres 4, Boston Bruins 2; Pittsburgh Penguins 4, Winnipeg Jets 3; Vancouver Canucks 3, Detroit Red Wings 2; Los Angeles Kings 4, Toronto Maple Leafs 3. BLUECOL CUP FINAL: First leg: Durham Wasps 6, Solihull Barons 6.

TABLE TENNIS

CERKNICA: European Super League: Yugoslavia bt Netherlands 7-0.

CYCLING

PARIS: six day race: Leading placings: (after first night): 1, D Clark and G Wiggins (Aus) 69 points; 2, F Moser (It) and R Pijnen (Neth) 49; 3, B Vallet (Fr) and G Frank (Den), 24. One lap behind: 4, U Freuler and D Gisiger (Switz), 14; 5, S Tourne and E de Wilde (Bel), 9; 6, H Schuetz and R Hofeditz (WG), 2. Two laps: 7, L Fignon and C Mottet (Fr), 15; 8, Y Bertin (Fr) and H Rinklin (WG), 14.

VOLLEYBALL

HIROSHIMA: Men's world championships: Soviet Union bt Japan 15-6, 15-8, 15-5; United States bt Mexico 15-7, 15-6, 15-10; S Korea bt Bulgaria 20-18, 15-8, 15-9; Poland bt China 11-15, 15-6, 15-8, 15-11. Final placings: 1, Soviet Union; 2, United States; 3, Japan.

TENNIS

JOHANNESBURG: Four-team men's tournament: E Teltscher (US) bt C van Rensburg (SA) 6-3, 6-2; C L Clerc (International) bt C Lewis (NZ-Aus) 7-6 (10-8), 6-3; D Visser and van Rensburg (SA) bt J Arias and P Annacone (US) 6-3, 7-6 (7-4).

TREVISO: Grand Prix tournament: Second round: T Benhabiles (Fr) bt P Slozil (Cz) 6-1, 3-6, 6-3; H Schwaier (WG) bt M Hocevar (Br) 6-4, 6-4; J Gunnarson (Swe) bt S Casal (Sp) 6-3, 4-6, 6-4; T Nelson (US) bt R Nixon (US) 6-3, 6-4; T Wilkinson (US) bt G Ocleppo (It) 6-1, 6-2; V Gerulaitis (US) bt C Mezzadri (It) 6-4, 6-3

BRISBANE: Women's Grasscourt Championships: (US unless stated): Singles: Third round: B Bunge (WG) bt R Fairbank (SA) 6-2, 6-7, 6-3; L Smylie (Aus) bt W Turnbull (Aus) 6-3, 7-6; P Shriver bt D Fromholtz-Balestrat (Aus) 6-3, 4-6, 6-4; P Paradis (Fr) bt K Rinaldi 4-6, 6-1, 6-3; Eva Pfaff (WG) bt C Vanier (Fr) 4-6, 7-6, 6-1; B Potter bt E Burgin 7-6, 6-4; H Sukova (Cz) bt A White 6-3, 6-2; C Lindqvist (Swe) bt A Henricksson 6-3, 5-7, 6-3. Doubles: Second round: R Fairbank (SA) and C Reynolds bt J Salmon and S Gomer (GB) 6-0, 6-4; C Jolissaint (Switz) and M Mesker (Neth) bt A Brown (GB) and F Raschiatore 6-3, 6-4.

ANTWERP: European Champions' Championships: First round: H Sundstrom (Swe) bt L Pimek (Cz) 6-4, 6-7, 6-6; T Smid (Cz) bt J Aguilera (Sp) 6-2, 6-4.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Detroit Pistons 137, *Philadelphia 76ers* 133; Boston Celtics 115, New York Knicks 99; Washington Bullets 125, San Antonio Spurs 106; Phoenix Suns 96, New Jersey Nets 88; Indiana Pacers 125, Houston Rockets 117.

KELLOGG NATIONAL CUP: Quarter-finals: Crystal Palace Supersonics 84, (Lucas 24), Kingcraft Kingston 93 (Bontrager 25); Manchester Giants 105 (Robinson 27), Walkers Crisps, Leicester 98 (Waldron 36); Nissan Bears Worthing 78 (Cunningham 26), John Carr Doncaster 80 (Streater 25).

CRICKET: Somerset have taken on four new players for 1985: Simon Turner, a 24-year-old wicketkeeper, on a two year contract; Murray Tucner, a 20-year-old all-rounder, on a one year contract; and two 19-year-old batsmen, Paul Bail and Richard Harden, also on one year contracts.

TRAMPOLINING: Sue Shotton, aged 19, from Portsmouth, makes her first compeitive appearance in Britain since winning three world titles in Osaka, Japan, four months ago, *when she defends the women's* individual event of the World Cup at Crystal Palace on Sunday.

CYCLING: Laurent Fignon, twice the winner of the Tour de France, had mixed luck in his first six-day event in Paris on Wednesday night, setting the fastest lap time but falling in the final sprint. *Fignon* was expected to return to the fray last night. He and his partner, Charles Mottet were seventh overall, two laps behind the Australian leaders, Danny Clark and Gary Wiggins.

● Mark Brown, the outstanding candidate to fill the blind-side flanker's position for Wales against Australia tomorrow week, has been ruled out of the international by a knee injury sustained last weekend. The Pontypool flanker had been preparing to stand in for Richard Moriarty, who is suspended.

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

WORLD CUP: Group two: Portugal 1, Sweden 3; Group three: Northern Ireland 2, Finland 1; Turkey 0, England 8; Group five: Austria 1, Netherlands 0; Group six: Denmark 3, Republic of Ireland 0; Group seven: Scotland 3, Spain 1; Wales 2, Iceland 1.

FRIENDLY: Manchester City 1, Australia 3.

CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Aston Villa 2, West Bromwich Albion 0; Blackburn 2, Sheffield Wednesday 2; Newcastle v Barnsley, postponed; Nottingham Forest 6, Notts County 1; Sheffield United 2, Derby 1. Second division: Blackpool 3, Preston 0; Port Vale 1, Scunthorpe 0.

FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Norwich 1, Watford 1; Oxford 1, Arsenal 2; Reading 3, Swindon 1; Crystal Palace 3, Bristol Rovers 0.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Premier division: King's Lynn 1, Bedworth 1.

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Second division north: Tring 1, Royston 1

ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE: Chelmsford 4, East Thurrock 0.

SOUTHERN COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP: Middlesex 4, Leicester and Rutland 0.

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Cambridge University 2, Royal Navy 6.

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Bradfield 0, Malvern 2; Farnham 10, Reigate 1; Forest 13, St Edmund's Canterbury 1; Harvey 6, Simon Langton 1.

RUGBY UNION

TOUR MATCH: Ulster 15, Australians 13.

CLUB MATCHES: Cambridge University 3, Bedford 8; Coventry 20, Nuneaton 12; Gloucester 22, Cheltenham 15.

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Abingdon 31, Reading 4; Austin Friars 13, Whitehaven 22; Bloxham 15; King Edward's Stratford 8; Camborne SOM 8 24, Richard Lander 12; Caterham 3; Silcoates 12; Eastbourne 7, Christ's Hospital 3; Falmouth 3, Penwith 8 6; Farnham 19, Reigate 0; Gunnersbury 7, Windsor GS 3; KCS, Wimbledon 14, Douai 6; Latymer Upper 18, St Benedict's Ealing 11; Lawrence Sheriff 7, North Leamington 3; Magdalen CS, Brackley 9, Sponne 0; Marling 22, Army Apprentice, Chepsow 0; Newport GS (Essex) Pierrepoint 37, Bambridge (IOW) 6; Rochester Math 27, King's, Rochester 3; St Bees 56, QECS, Penrith 3; Shiplake 25, Pangbourne 10; Stonyhurst 9, Ampleforth 7; Truro 3, Newquay 45; Willington HS 28, London Oratory 18; Warwick 12, Bablake 19; Wellington (Somerset) 20, Allhallows 0; Wolverhampton GS 18, Tettenhall 10; Worcester RGS 12, King Edward's Birmingham 18. Middlesex under-19 cup: First round: William Ellis 18, Bishop Douglas's 18. REPRESENTATVE MATCH: Essex 9, United Banks 25.

CRICKET

Veil of diplomacy falls as tour throws up first controversy

From Richard Streeton, Jaipur

England, who will need runs all down the order on this tour, had the satisfaction of seeing Ellison and Marks finding their best form yesterday as they made 444 for eight wickets against the President's XI before they declared with little more than two hours left. As the match moved to its predictably quiet draw, the tour's first whiff of controversy hovered in the air.

Tony Brown, the England manager, found himself denying that he, or any of his players, had officially complained to the umpires that Ashok Patel, the off-spinner, had been guilty of throwing on Wednesday. The allegation about England was made in *Patrika*, the Rajasthan state's English language daily newspaper.

Some good, though, did come from this incident, as Mr Brown admitted that it has served to remind him to check his lines of communication with the Indian board on such issues. Bishen Bedi, the former Test match spinner, who has been attending this game as an Indian selector, had advised the England manager that the touring team could always mention such matters on the umpires' report cards at the end of each match.

Mr Brown, treading warily on a diplomatic tightrope, said that any time England felt it necessary to make such comments they would be confidential as far as he was concerned. Three years ago the touring England side publicly complained about some Indian umpires and incurred considerable criticism for doing so.

Mr Brown's conversation with Bishen Bedi, I understad, was overheard by the *Patrika* representative and ther is no question that Patel's delivery was a topic of conversation in the England dressing room. That is not to say Patel has an illegal action. It ha been debated in Indian cricket circles, however, in the past, though it must be stressed that he has never been called for throwing. He does deliver the ball with a bent arm but he does not straighten it at the moment of delivery.

The Australians, who played against Patel in October, had no objections to his action. For what it is worth, neither did your correspondent, though Patel is the sort of bowler who would always cause English umpires to be specially vigilant.

Nobody would wish this tour to be marked by a furore about throwing, though the topic might arise again in our next match at Ahmedabad. The Indian under-25 team include Chetan Sharma, India's new fast bowler, who played recently against Pakistan and has come under suspicion when bowling bouncers.

If England' slater batsman were to get some practice in the middle, Gower had little alternative but to allow England's innings to continue as long as he did. It lasted nearly eight hours and a half but fortunately the run rate was far brisker than usually is the case in this country's domestic cricket. Matches frequently become long-drawn-out affairs, settled on first innings. England attracted no complaints from another sparse crowd.

Ellison and Marks made some splendid strokes as they took advantage of a docile pitch and moderate bowling and added 115 for the sixth wicket in 27 overs. Gower was held at second slip as soon as the new ball was taken in the day's first over. Marks, continuing in the form which brought him a spate of runs at the end of the English summer, cut, drove and hooked the new-ball attack and then attacked the spinners with confidence.

Marks finally holed out to deep midweek and Edmonds was soon caught at long-off, but French stayed 35 minutes before an off-break beat him. Ellison, who hit one six and 10 fours, batted three hours and a half. He showed good judgement against the slow bowlers in an innings which should help his confidence a great deal. The newsworthy Ashok Patel finished with one for 112.

Gaekwad rested a bruised foot when the President's XI batted again. Kiran More, the substitute opener, was soon caught behind flashing against Cowans. Padam Shastri was held at 'gully to give Cowdrey his first wicket of the tour and Edmonds, using a modified approach run of three paces, beat Gursharan Singh through the air and again bowled without problems.

President's XI: First innings 198 for 5 dec (A) Malhotra 102 not out).

Second Innings

P Shastri, c Edmonds, b Cowdrey	30
†K More c French, b Cowans	12
M Azharuddin, not out	52
Gursharan Singh, st French, b Edmonds	0
S Mudkavi, not out	21
Extras (b 1, l-b 1)	2
Total (3 wkts)	117

*A D gaekwad, A Malhotra, R Kulkarni, Randhir singh, Ashok Patel and R Bhatt did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1–24, 2–69, 3–70.

BOWLING: Allott, 9-1-29-0; Cowans 6-1-63-1; Cowdrey, 4-1-6-1 Marks, 9-1-30-0; Edmonds 11-5-15-1.

ENGLAND: First Innings

G Fowle , c More, b Bhatt	28
R T Robinson, c and b, Mudkavi	81
M W Gatting, c Mudkavi, b Bhatt	39
*D I Gower, c Shastri b Kulkarni	82
C S Cowdrey, b Kulkarni	8
R M Ellison, not out	83
V J Marks, c Azharuddin, b Mudkavi	68
P H Edmonds, c Kulkarni, b Patel	6
†B N French, b Mudkavi	19
P J W Allott, not out	5
Extras (b 5, lb 15, w 4, n-b 6)	30
Total (8 wkts dec)	444

FALL OF WICKETS: 1–56, 2–142, 3–221, 4–244, 5–279, 6–394, 7–404, 8–436.

BOWLING: Kulkarni, 22-2-78-2; R Singh, 18-2-72-0; Bhatt, 31-4-97-2; Patel, 30-3-112-1; Mudkavi, 18-2-65-3.

No-balls and wides debited to bowlers' analyces.

Umpires: P D Reporter and Swarup Krishnan.

Moxon to return

Martyn Moxon, the Yorkshire batsman who flew home to attend his father's funeral, hopes to rejoin England's touring party in India on Sunday.

Qadir plans a field day

Lahore (Reuter) – New Zealand, with only one win over Pakistan in 21 Test matches, will be hard pressed to add to this tally in the opening match of the latest series starting at the Gaddafi Stadium here today.

It was 15 years ago, also in Lahore, that New Zealand achieved their solitary win over the Pakistanis, who were bowled out in four hours on the first day for 14.

The prospect of New Zealand repeating this feat today is remote. The pitch is unlikely to reward the quicker bowlers and the groundsman, Gul Mohammad, a former Test player, predicted only slow turn for the spinners.

Pakistan are unable to call on the services of their fast bowlers Imran Khan, who is recovering from injury, and Sarfraz Nawaz, who has retired, and a grassless pitch may prove ideal for leg-spinner Abdul Qadir, already described by his captain, Zaheer Abbas, as his "trump card".

Pakistan's batsmen have shown impressive early-season form, with openers Mohsin Khan, Mudassar Nazar, Qasim Omar, Zaheer Abbas and Salim Malik already among the runs during India's recent visit.

New Zealand, on the other hand, have had their batting problems, and their manager, Ian Taylor, was critical of their efforts in the first one-day international at Peshewar four days ago, which they lost by 46 runs after being bowled out for 145.

HOCKEY

Staffordshire look to Swinnerton

By Joyce Whitehead

Staffordshire meet Northamptonshire tomorrow in what could be the closest of the second round women's championship matches being played in the Midlands and North. Both sides won well in their first round matches last week, and Swinnerton is in particularly good form for Staffordshire.

It would do Shropshire, who beat Derbyshire last week, the world of good if they could pull off another win against Worcestershire in Evesham. Leicestershire, the Midlands champions, travel to Ilkeston to play Derbyshire, and Warwickshire are at home to Nottinghamshire.

In the North, Cheshire meet Manchester League at Hartford, Westmorland play Durham on Vickers' ground at Barrow, Northumberland play Lancashire, and Yorkshire play Lancashire Central League at Preston Hockey Club.

Lancashire's 5–0 win over Manchester League last week was not really a true reflection of the game.

On Sunday there will be friendly matches. Hampshire, whose confidence was boosted last weekend when they beat Berkshire by the only goal of the match, scored by Jackie Richards, travel to Yate to meet Avon. Berkshire, smarting a little from their defeat in their first championship match, go to Ashford to play Kent. Sussex, with their relatively inexperienced side, will be at home on Hove County Cricket ground to Dorset, while Devon play Gwent at Rolle College.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

BADMINTON: England v China (at Coventry SC).
HOCKEY: Home countries women's tournament (at Edinburgh); RAF inter-command competition (at RAF College, Cranwell).
ICE SKATING: British ice dance championships (at Nottingham).
SQUASH RACKETS: British veterans and vintage championships (at Queen's Tower SRC, Sheffield); British U23 closed tournament (at Redwood Lodge, Bristol); Combined services individual championships (at Waverley Club, Farnham).
TENNIS: WLTA tournament (at Telford).

GOLF

Practice makes perfect for leader Watson

Melbourne (Reuter) – Tom Watson, of the United States, leads the Australian Open by three shots after a first-round score of 67, five-under-par, on the demanding Royal Melbourne course yesterday.

Watson's compatriot, Payne Stewart, and the Australians, David Graham, Peter Senior, Ian Baker-Finch, Ossie Moore and Roger Mackay, were chasing on 70.

Watson, aged 35, showed indifferent form in practice on Wednesday and said: "I didn't feel particularly confident today at the way I was swinging at the ball. "But I hit some good shots and fortunately the bad shots didn't really hurt me too much. A 67 on this gold course is more than I could have expected."

LEADING FIRST ROUND SCORES (Australian unless stated): 67: T Watson (US). 70: D Graham, P Senior; Ian Baker-Finch; Ossie Moore; P Stewart (US); R Mackay. 71: P Hamblett (NZ); G Taylor; C Bishop; Brand Jnr (GB); M McIntyre; D Cameron; B Stanton; D Merriman; B Murray (US). Other scores included: 74: G Norman; L Higgins (Ire); 77: M Bembridge (GB).

● MIYAZAKI, Japan (AFP) – Johnny Miller, of the United States, had five birdies on his way to a first round score of 68, four under par to lead the Phoenix tournament by one stroke yesterday.

Four men were on 69, one stroke behind Miller: Toshiharu Kawada, Tsutomu Irie and Isao Aoki of Japan, and Bernhard Langer.

LEADING FIRST ROUND SCORES (Japanese unless stated): 68: J Miller (US). 69: T Kawada; T Irie; I Aoki; B Langer (WG). 70: Y Miyamoto; K Arai; S Ballesteros (Sp); H Makino. British score: 73: S Lyle.

● ROME: Heavy rain, coupled with thunder and lightning, led to the first round of the 31st World Cup being abandoned on the Olgiata course here yesterday (Mitchell Platts writes).

The organizers will wait for later weather reports before making a final decision on whether to reduce the tournament to 54 holes or attempt to complete the full 72.

When play was abandoned, the Irish were leading with Ronan Rafferty two under par and Eamonn Darcy level par after the six holes which they had completed.

RACING: BURROUGH HILL LAD THE NEW HENNESSY FAVOURITE AFTER SMOOTH WINCANTON VICTORY

Red letter day for Pitmans

By Michael Seely

Burrough Hill Lad put himself on target for his attempt to defy top weight in the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup at Newbury on Saturday week with an effortless win in the Silver Buck Chase at Wincanton yesterday. Apart from a mistake at the second fence from home, Jenny Pitman's Cheltenham Gold Cup winner jumped superbly to win by four lengths from Broadheath.

It was certainly a red letter day for Mrs Pitman as her 18-year-old son, Mark, completed a treble for the stable by landing a double at Uttoxeter on Winter Measure and Duesenberg. "He only turned professional on Monday. He should be all right, as he rides very well and does what he's told".

Phil Tuck was making his first visit to the Somerset track, as the jockey, who rode Burrough Hill Lad to that glorious victory at Cheltenham last March, was injured when John Francome acted as his deputy in the Jim Ford Challenge Cup here in February. "I was delighted with the horse, but it's going to be a long haul back home to Yorkshire in the fog", Tuck said.

Mrs Pitman was equally pleased, but she is under no illusions about the enormity of the task that will face this outstanding chaser under 12st in Newbury's great race. "That was just what Burrough Hill Lad wanted. But he won't be able to afford a mistake like that in the Hennessy. It's so competitive and high-class that it's just like a fast-run Grand National. And it's not just the horses from other stables that he's got to beat. Corbière is on the right mark at last, with only 10st 4lb to carry." William Hills have Burrough Hill Lad as their favourite at 5-1. They then go 6-1 Everett and 8-1 Canny Danny, Tracy's Special and Gaye Chance. Corbière is on offer at 14-1.

Provided that he acquits himself with credit at Newbury, Mrs Pitman then envisages a tilt against Wayward Lad in the King George VI Chase on Boxing Day. "I don't know whether Kempton is really his course, but we've certainly got to have a go", she said.

John Hurst was the hero of the afternoon after surviving an appalling blunder at the fourth fence from home on Beau Ranger in the Badger Beer Handicap Chase before staging a magnificent rally to beat Run To Me by two and a half lengths. "I thought the horse was gone and I thought that I was gone as well", the elated 22-year-old jockey said. "He landed on his nose and we must have lost 10 lengths. But I gave him a breather and he came back like a tiger at the last."

The coolest young man on the course was Simon Christin after Chrysaor had beaten Morning Line and Malya Mal, the favourite, in the Remembrance Poppy Day Hurdle. Both Prideaux Boy and Cocaine had been in with winning chances when they fell at the second last. "Willie Newton, my jockey said that the horse was in trouble three from home and that it was only his stamina that gained him the day", Christian said.

After only three runners had completed the course in the Mendip Hills' Novices' Chase, Ron Atkins, the jockeys' safety officer, asked for an inspection of the fences. Michael Meredith, the clerk of the course, said that an inspection had already been carried out before the first race. "All the fences are 4ft 6½ins high and only half an inch more than the minimum. However, he found that some of the fences that had not been made up this year were perhaps a little stiff. So we're going to make some adjustments before the next meeting."



Pearlyman leaps clear in the Novices Hurdle at Wincanton (Photograph: Ian Stewart)

A former champion weighs in with a winning chance

By Mandarin

All eyes will be on Gaye Brief, the 1983 champion hurdler, who makes his comeback after a nine-month absence in the Fairweather City Ascot Hurdle over two and a half miles at Ascot this afternoon.

The Mercy Rimell-trained seven-year-old last ran in public when winning a minor race at Hereford at the beginning of February but had a number of setbacks, including back trouble, which prevented him from defending his title against Dawn Run in March.

Mrs Rimell is confident that her star hurdler will be forward enough in condition to do himself justice today, saying "since he's been back in training I couldn't be more pleased – he's absolutely marvellous." Her only slight reservation about the contest was the extra distance, she would have been slightly happier if Gaye Brief were running over two miles.

The Severn Stoke trainer was quick to point out that the Ascot race conditions favoured Gaye Brief as he had not won a prize of any great value since Christmas. With 10st 11lb to carry, the former champion in fact receives a 5lb allowance from two of his rivals, Robin Wonder and Alastor O Mavros.

Robin Wonder, trained by David Elsworth, showed that he was in peak form when he won a competitive two-mile handicap hurdle under top weight at Cheltenham on Saturday.

Another interesting rival is Very Promising, formerly trained by Mrs Rimell, who, despite not scoring last season, still managed a creditable third behind Dawn Run and Cima in the Champion Hurdle. The six-year-old, now with David Nicholson, finished fast for fourth place behind *Ra Nova* on his first appearance of the season at Kempton.

However, GAYE BRIEF, owned by Shaikh Ali Abu Khamsin, should make his class tell here and I expect to see this brilliant performer pass his test with flying colours and become a leading challenger again for top hurdling honours.

Another interesting contest, during an afternoon of well-balanced and competitive racing, is the clash between that talented Irish raider, Buck House, and several promising home recruits to chasing in the two-mile Hurst Park Novices' Chase.

The Yorkshire-trained Sula Bula never recovered from slipping on landing two out against Freight Forwarder at Cheltenham on Saturday but seeks revenge here; and Buckbe, a most versatile young performer, adapted well to the bigger obstacles with a fluent victory at Devon and Exeter earlier this month.

However, this could mainly concern Buck house, fourth in last season's Champion Hurdle, who made a winning debut over fences at Gowran Park last month before, not surprisingly, finding the concession of 5lb to that great mare, Dawn Run, too much for him at Navan recently, and the year-younger TOWNLEY STONE. John Webber's five-year-old beat Great Light with such authority at Sandown that this exciting prospect is given a narrow vote.

The Fulke Walwyn-trained HYPNOTIC won a host of admirers with a runaway victory over Ragged Robin (a winner since) over today's course and distance last month and this grand-looking son of Roybeen is napped to beat Richard H.lder's progressive Bandelero, who reverts to a shorter distance after gamely holding Voyant over two and half miles at Newbury.

After two seconds this term, the Fred Winter-trained MUSSO can go one better in the Punch Bowl Amateur Riders' Hurdle at the expense of Bashful Lad. Other attractive prospects are GREEN BRAMBLE to follow up his Chepstow success in the Charles Davis Handicap Chase and the in-form VIVAQUE to complete a double in the Lion Gate Handicap Hurdle.

Course specialists

ASCOT

TRAINERS: M H Easterby 10 winners from 25 runners, 40.0%; F Walwyn 12 from 56, 21.4%; F Winter 29 from 181, 16.0%.

NEWCASTLE

TRAINERS: J Blundell 12 winners from 43 runners, 27.9%; M H Easterby 27 from 114, 23.7%; N Crump 19 from 82, 23.2%.

MARKET RASEN

TRAINERS: G Richards 10 winners from 37 runners, 27.0%; M H Easterby 22 from 87, 25.3%; J Fitzgerald 20 from 84, 23.8%.

ASCOT (BBC)

[*Televised: 2.10, 2.40, 3.10, (BBC2) 3.40*]

GOING: good

TOTE: double 2.10, 3.10: treble 1.35, 2.50, 3.40

1.0 BINGLEY NOVICE HURDLE (4-y-o: £2,211: 2m) (9 runners)

101	333-111	BANDELERO (A Holmes) R Holder 11-10	N Coleman 4
102	2-1	HYPNOTIC (C,D) (Mrs J Corbett) F Walwyn 11-5	K Mooney
104	22-	BAD HABITS (L Fuller) B Swift 11-0	R Campbell 4
107		LEOPARDO (Mrs P Gibbings) J Gifford 11-0	R Rowe
108		LISLARY LAD (V Raibin) Mrs M Rimell 11-0	S Morshed
109	1	MAGANYOS (D Samuel) N Henderson 11-0	J White
110		ROYAL GAMBIT (S Embiricos) J Gifford 11-0	E Murphy 7
112	00-	SPOT THE PATCH (P Wilkins) B McMahon 11-0	P Scudamore
113		TEN OF SPADES (W Whitbread) S Mellor 11-0	–

1983: Desert Orchid 11-6 C Brown (1-2 fav) D Elsworth 3 ran.

11-8 Hypnotic, 4 Bandelero, 5 Meganyos, 7 Lislary Lad, 10 Ten Of Spades, 12 Leopardo, Bad Habits, 16 others.

Form: BANDELERO (11-2) won head from Voyant (10-9) at Newbury (2m 4f hdle, £2,786, good, Nov 7, 11 ran). HYPNOTIC (10-13) impressive 15l winner over Ragged Robin (11-4) at Ascot (2m hdle, £2,080, good, Oct 31, 19 ran). LISLARY LAD (11-10) dead heated for 2nd 1l behind Half Bar (11-10) at Fairyhouse (2m flat, £1,035, good, Apr 23, 28 ran). MAGANYOS (10-8) 3l winner over Olympic Prize (10-10) at Sandown (2m hdle, £2,038, good, Nov 2, 15 ran). TEN OF SPADES (11-4) eased inside last when 4l winner over Welsh Grove (11-4) at Navan (2m flat, £965, heavy, Mar 28, 16 ran).
Selection: HYPNOTIC.

Ascot selections

By Mandarin

1.0 HYPNOTIC (nap). 1.35 Musso. 2.10 Gaye Brief. 2.40 Townley Stone. 3.10 Green Bramble. 3.40 Vivaque.

Michael Seely's selection 3.40 VIVAQUE (nap).

1.35 PUNCH BOWL AMATEUR RIDERS HANDICAP CHASE (£3,295: 3m) (6)

202	24u2/1-	HENRY BISHOP (B Dukes) Mrs B Dukes 11-11-11	P Dukes 7
203	1024-22	MUSSO (D) (BF) (R Bott Wigmore St Ltd) F Winter 8-11-7	S Sherwood
204	031-u20	BASHFUL LAD (D) (Mrs F Parkes) M Oliver 9-10-9	J Weston
205	020021	BALLYROSS (C,D) (Anne Duchess of Westminster) T Forster 13-10-6	T Thomson Jones

2.10 FAIRWEATHER CITY ASCOT HURDLE (Grade II: £9,768: 2m 4f) (5)

2.40 HURST PARK NOVICE CHASE (Grade II: £9,984: 2m) (8)

3.10 CHARLES DAVIS HANDICAP CHASE (£6,312: 2m) (6)

3.40 LION GATE HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,121: 3m) (11)

Glyde Court in charge

Glyde Court made a comfortable winning debut over fences in the John Buil Bitter Novices' Chase at mist-shrouded Towcester yesterday. Most of the track was obscured by fog, but when the field emerged from the gloom two fences out, Glyde Court was in front, John Francome only had to push him out on the run-in to hold Double Bass by three lengths.

The victory of Glyde Court, owned by Chris Cronin and trained by Fred Winter makes up in part for the odds-on defeat of the same combination's Hazy Sunset at Newbury on wednesday.

Like Hazy Sunset, Glyde Court is still not 100 per cent fit, and Francome considers he will need another two races before he reaches his peak.

Wincanton results

1.15 (2m hdle) (I: £643: 2m). 1, PEARLYMAN (P Barton, 14-1); 2, Airwair (R Linley, 9-4 fav); 3, Wordsworth (R Arnott, 25-1). Also ran: 11-2 Fell Climb, Strike Lucky (u/r), 7 Cool Sun, 8 Gascof (4th), 12 Erica Superba (5th), 16 Little Compo, 20 Sea Ranger, 25 Benmore, 33 Punter's Joy, 50 Grey Castle, Round Again (6th), Wordan Prince, Bovey Bells (u/r), Ligonite (p/u), Royal Buskins (br/d). 18 ran. 8l, 12l, 3l, 4l, 2½l. J Edwards at Ross-On-Wye. TOTE: £12.00; £4.10, £1.30, £17.10. DF: £17.70. CSF: £44.82.

1.45 (2m chase) 1, ROCKFIELD BOY (B Powell, 25-1); 2, Sundial (P Scudamore, 16-1); 3, Royal Marx (Mr P Morgan, 8-1). Also ran: 10-11 fav Warner For Leisure (fell), 13-2 Ferocious Knight (fell), 7 Rigton Beau (p/u), 14 Cilema Jet (fell), 20 Finesko (p/u), 33 Black Earl (fell), 50 Scale The Heights (p/u). 11 ran. NR: The Foodbroker. 12l, 15l. J Jenkins at Epsom. TOTE: £24.00; £4.70, £3.00, £2.10. DF: £74.50. CSF: £338.94.

2.15 (2m 5f) 1, BEAU RANGER (J Hurst, 11-4 jt fav); 2, Run To Me (B Powell, 12-1); 3, Bishop's Bow (Steve Knight, 12-1). Also ran: 11-4 jt fav Garnvir, 5 Triska, 6 Lucky Rew (p/u), 8 Oyster Pond (6th), 14 Co-Member (4th), 50 Querrin (5th). 9 ran. 2½ l, 15l, 7l, 12l, 4l. J Thorne at Bridgwater. TOTE: £4.60; £2.50, £1.40, £2.80. DF: £20.80. CSF: £32.33.

2.45 (2m hdle) 1, CHRYSAOR (W Newton, 9-2); 2, Morning Line (B Powell, 14-1); 3, Malya Mal (R Linley, 2-1 fav). ALSO RAN: 3 Cocaine (f), 4 Prideaux Boy (f), 16 Sea Pennant, 20 John Willoughby (5th), 25 Somersday (4th), 33 Glasgow Central, 50 Bullring, Gypsey Lee, Batten, French Polly (6th). 13 ran. 2½l, ¾l, 8l 12l, 2l. S Christian at Lambourn. TOTE: £7.80; £2.00, £1.80, £1.70. DF: £57.10. CSF: £62.39. TRICAST: £151.17.

3.15 (3m 1f ch) 1, BURROUGH HILL LAD (P Tuck, 1-4 fav); 2, Broadheath (P Scudamore, 9-2); 3, Buck Royale (R Dunwoody, 8-1). 3 ran. 4l, 30l. Mrs J Pitman at Upper Lambourn. TOTE: £1.10. DF: £1.10. CSF: £1.78.

3.45 (2m hdle) 1, HYPNOSIS (C Brown, 4-7 fav); 2, Walnut Way (George Knight, 10-1); 3, Tla Boy (S Shilston, 7-1). ALSO RAN: 8 Dominion Girl (6th), 14 Landseer, Roberts Girl, 25 Fulvio (4th), Gilbert's Choice (5th), 33 Miss Paveh, 100 Tudenors Place (pu), Anchor Wood (pu), Pydie Lady (pu). 12 ran. 8l, 2l, ½l, 4l, 20l. D Elsworth at Whitsbury. TOTE: £1.60; £1.10, £1.50, £2.20. DF: £4.80. CSF: £8.25. PLACEPOT: £42.90.

Towcester

1.00 (2m 5f 110yd ch) 1, GLYDE COURT (J Francome, 2-1 fav); 2, Double Bass (H Davies, 10-1); 3, Greenore Pride (P Double, 16-1). ALSO RAN: 9-2 Macoliver (6th), 5 Deep Mopper (5th), Alwins Boy (pu), 13-2 Aniece (pu), 7 Ride High, 25 Ayle Hero, 33 The Corinthian, 50 Avantie (4th), Streamliner. 12 ran. NR: Gesta An Uisce. 3l, ½l, 4l, 1l, 1½l. F Winter at Lambourn. TOTE: £2.80; £1.50, £5.00, £2.70. DF: £17.40. CSF: £24.30.

1.30 (2m hdle) 1, THE DIPLOMAT (S McNeill, 5-1 fav); 2, Sir Lucky (M Brennan, 16-1); 3, Taffy Jones (J Francome, 6-1); 4, Village Draper (J Duggan, 10-1). ALSO RAN: 6 Sweetcal, 13-2 Sacred Path, 7 Applante (6th), A.T.S. Prince, 8 Nudge Nudge, 12 Waterhead (pu), 14 Matin (pu), 16 Belgrove Lad (5th), 20 Polish, Snowy Bondair, 25 Orchid Bay (ran out), Pip, 33 Noble Patrol, Appalachian, Hopeful Shot, Sloane Street, Pin Tuck. 21 ran. Sh hd, 3l, 1½l, nk, 2½l. D Ringer at

NEWCASTLE

GOING: soft

12.45 PONTELAND HANDICAP HURDLE (1862: 2m 4f) (11 runners)

2	2404-	REPINGTON (B) (CD) N Crump 6-12-1	C Hawkins
3	101p-	PRELKO (D) J Fitzgerald 9-11-12	Mr S Mullins 7
6	0310-	BORDER KNIGHT (CD) J Haldane 9-10-11	C Grant
8	3/2-04	KELSO CHANT R Gray 12-10-9	S Charlton
9	10-03	JOE'S FANCY (D) P Liddle 6-10-4	G W Gray
10	u-120	HELSHAW GRANGE J Blundell 5-10-4	D Dutton
11	0020-	RUN IN TUNE (D) D Eddy 5-10-4	C Pimlott
12	02-03	VITRIOLIC (BF) R Fisher 5-10-0	P Tuck
13	10-00	AUCKLAND EXPRESS Denys Smith 4-10-0	T G Davies
14	0003/	MISS APOLLO Miss Z Green 7-10-0	J Goulding
16	4-0p0	KANISA (B) (D) W J Smith 6-10-0	NON-RUNNER

1983: Repington 5-10-7 C Hawkins (11-4) N Crump 9 ran.
9-4 Vitriolic, 11-4 Kelso Chant, 9-2 Border Knight, 6 Prelko,

Newcastle selections

By Mandarin

12.45 Border Kinght. 1.15 Not Easy. 1.45 Antiguan Moon. 2.15 Katie Mac. 2.45 Snow Blessed. 3.15 Our Louise.

1.15 BOLAM SELLING HURDLE (£676: 2m 120yd) (11)

2	0-0p4	TEUCER (B) V Thompson 4-11-9	Mr M Thompson 7
3	1030-	VALOROSO J Kettlewell 4-11-9	S Kettlewell 4
5	410-0	NOT EASY E Carter 4-11-4	C Pimlott
6	f440	CALAMAN P Monteith 4-11-2	D Nolan
7	4-400	CARLINGFORD BAY R Gray 5-11-2	Mr G Harker 7
10	2-000	PALLETAIT N Waggott 4-11-2	–
12	00-00	SABINA PARK R Nixon 4-11-2	Mr C Storey 7
15	0up-3	CHANTENO (B) W Smith 5-10-11	S Youlden 4
16		IT'S HEAVEN Mrs M Nesbitt 4-10-11	D Dutton
17	00	LANDING LANE N Waggott 4-10-11	Mr N Waggott 7
18	p3-00	RHYMARC G Richards 4-10-11	J Hansen 4

1983: Mountaineer 4-11-2 J Barlow (3-1) J Leigh 7 ran.
5-2 Chanteno, 7-2 Teucer, 9-2 Valoroso, 11-2 Sabina Park,

1.45 JACK BRITTON NOVICE CHASE (£2,384: 3m) (10)

2	0303	HERON'S REFLECTION W A Stephenson 6-12-1	R Lamb
4	0-u2f	ANTIGUAN MOON J Blundell 6-11-10	D Dutton
5	00/0p-	CRICKET WOOD H Wharton 6-11-10	S Youlden 4
7	003-0	FORT NELSON W A Stephenson 6-11-10	Mr P J Dun 4
11	384-2	JOCKAMBEL D Thomson 8-11-10	T G Dun
12	0u3f	LARRY HILL Mrs J Goodfellow 9-11-10	P A Farrell 7
13	0pp2-	OCEAN CRUISE I Vickers 8-11-10	C Grant
14		PALISTRANO (B) T Craig 10-11-10	M Ennis
16	p00	RUN TOKEN Mrs S Bramall 6-11-10	C Pimlott
18	002-u	WELLHILL W Forster 9-11-10	Mr P Craggs

1983: A Kinsman 7-12-4 T Dun (8-11 fav) J Brockbank 9 ran.
15-8 Antiguan Moon, 3 Heron's Reflection, 9-2 Jockambel,

2.15 NORTH NORTHUMBERLAND LIGHT HORSE BREEDING SOCIETY NOVICE HURDLE (mares: £1,134: 2m 4f) (15)

2.45 GOSFORTH PARK AMATEUR CUP HANDICAP CHASE (£1,573: 2m 4f) (5)

3.15 FELTON NOVICE HURDLE (£964: 2m 120yd) (19)

MARKET RASEN

GOING: soft

1.0 WHITE SWAN SELLING HURDLE (£644: 2m) (16 runners)

1	0001	WILL PEGGITY J Townson 6-11-12	Sharron James 7
2	0004	NARSINH J Jenkins 5-11-10	–
3	0143-	BATON MATCH M Chapman 4-11-5	P Liddle 7
4		TRADE HIGH G Richards 5-11-3	N Doughty
5	0200/	SOVEREIGN SHOT Mrs E Andrews 6-11-0	Mr S R Andrews 4
6	0380	ARNAB L Wordingham 4-10-12	J Barlow
7	130	GOLDLINER BONUS (B) (CD) J Hardy 3-10-12	S Johnson
8		TRANSONIC R Thompson 6-10-12	P Dever 4
11	004	BARNALYRA G G Morgan 3-10-5	C McWatrick 4
12	4p	BOMBARD D Thom 3-10-5	Mr D Murphy 4
13		BLENDULA C Wardman 3-10-0	–
14		DARING PRANK C Wardman 3-10-0	–
15		DAWN LADY D Chapman 3-10-0	G P Kelly
16		HARDWICK AMBER W Wharton 3-10-0	M Brennan
18	0	ROSE OF HARPENDEN (B) R Thompson 3-10-0	–
19	0	TALLY TOO J Harris 3-10-0	J A Harris

1983: Sweey Diane, 4-10-7 D Dutton (11-8 fav) J Blundell 9 ran.
7-4 Trade High, 4 Narsinh, 6 Will Peggity, 8 Goldliner Bonus, Bombard.

Market Rasen selections

By Mandarin

1.0 Narsinh. 1.30 Grinders. 2.0 Tullamarine. 2.30 Kevinsfort. 3.0 San Fermin. 3.30 Centre Attraction.

By Michael Seely

1.30 Grinders. 3.0 San Fermin.

1.30 LIMESTONE EDWARD HANDICAP CHASE (£2,291: 3m) (7)

2	2b11-	ANDROMA (CD) J Fitzgerald 7-11-8	R O'Leary
3	p/01p	SEAMUS O'FLYNN (CD) C Holmes 9-11-4	A Webb
4	4211-	PLANETMAN (CD) Mrs M Dickinson 7-11-2	R Earnshaw
5	122-1	GRINDERS E Carter 6-11-1	P A Charlton
9	310-p	SANTA NOEL (CD) J Leigh 8-10-8	S Johnson
10	033p-	MOOR CLOSE (D) P Felgate 10-10-0	P Dever

2.0 HAVE-A-CARE LONG DISTANCE NOVICE HURDLE (£918: 3m) (20)

2.30 WHITE HART CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP CHASE (£1,366: 2m) (9)

3.0 EASTGATE HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,138: 2m) (12)

3.30 ASTON ARMS NOVICE CHASE (£1,032: 2m) (5)

Uttoxeter

BOXING

Jones gets third world chance with $1m contest against Curry

By Srikumar Sen, Boxing Correspondent

Colin Jones gets his third chance to realize his dream of lifting the world welterweight title when he takes on Don Curry, of United States, the champion, at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, on Saturday, January 19.

It will be the first title bout held in Britain under the rules of the World Boxing Association and as such will be over 15 rounds.

Frank Warren, who is promoting the show jointly with Bob Arum, of Top Rank Inc, does not expect any objection from the British boxing board, whose championship distances are 12 rounds in line with the World Boxing Council. "After all, the board are also members of the WBA and if you are a member of a club you have to stick by its rules", Warren said yesterday.

The distance will suit the tough Welshman from Gorseinon down to the ground, where he hopes to send Curry. "It will be a tough fight", Jones said. "Curry comes to fight. And I won't back off. It could be a case of who gets in the first big punch. But if it goes 15 rounds, that suit me fine too".

By the time January comes round, Jones will have geared himself up by running 400 miles up down the hills between Talybont and Pen-y-Fan in Wales. After Christmas, Jones will leave South Wales and move possibly to Oswestry to finish his training. "There are a lot of good sparring partners close by", Eddie Thomas, Jones's manager, said.

It is just as well that the champion, who is tipped to win three titles at three different weights, and to succeed Marvin Hagler as middleweight champion, does not mind travelling. For apart from giving Jones home advantage it should prove a most profitable night for the Welshman, who is already the richest active boxer in Britain after the world title bouts with Milton McCrory.

The bout, which is the most expensive to be staged in the Midlands, will cost the promoters $1m in purse money alone. The bulk of that money will come from the American television network, ABC, who will televise the bout live at 9.50 pm. If the NEC is filled to its 11,500 capacity, as is expected, the contest could gross record receipts as well.

● *Charlie Magri's first defence of* his European flyweight title against the former champion, Antoine Montero, of France, is open for purse offers, which must be received by the European Boxing Union secretary by December 3.

Montero, who successfully defended his European title against Keith Wallace in London just under a year ago, subsequently gave it up to concentrate on challenging for Gabriel Bernal's WBC crown. But when Montero met Bernal in Nimes in June the contest ended in disaster for the Frenchman.

Feeney to try again for title

John Feeney, of Hartlepool, who failed in his fourth attempt to lift the European bantamweight title when he was beaten on points by Ciro De Leva, of Italy, on Wednesday, said yesterday that he would be back for yet another try.

Feeney said he felt at a disadvantage in front of the 2,000-strong partisan crowd. "If it had been fought in England it would have been a different kettle of fish. We are here on our own. Everybody is against us. It just sickens me sometimes", he said.

SQUASH RACKETS

Inter-City to rescue

By Colin McQuillan

Inter-City, the British Rail high-speed passenger network, have launched a £90,000 sponsorship package for domestic squash that simultaneously returns the national championships to competitive significance and links them to the grassroots of the game.

Next month's British closed championships, unsponsored and offering minimum prize money, were in danger of becoming a second-rate event, with most top home players opting for bigger prizes and international ranking points overseas. Inter-City have raised the prize fund immediately to £13,000, and according to Cyril Bleasdale, a director of Inter-City, will aim for a greater increase in 1985.

The £500m rail operation have also taken over the range of SRA age-group national championships, renowned as the world's biggest single squash tournament because it annually attracts more than 30,000 entries. A new university challenge is also to be organized.

"We want to put the 1985 Inter-City British championships on the new all-transparent court and bring the finalists of all the other Inter-City British challenge tournaments to play alongside the country's best at the same venue", Mr Bleasdale said yesterday.

Morgan puts the boot into celebrity collection



No feet of Clay: Morgan with his prize capture, Muhammad Ali's boots

Fishing for memorabilia with tempting bait of fresh salmon

Morgan the Chemist has a habit of turning up in the unlikeliest places, and quite often within shoulder-rubbing distance of the famous.

Because of his sporting connexions Gwynne Morgan has been in touch with the greatest names in sport in order to satisfy his passion – collecting sporting memorabilia for the Carmarthen Athletic Club, of which he has been president for 23 years. There are now 120 jerseys and a wall full of boots of the famous adorning the club.

The boot-collecting venture all began, would you believe, because of the foot and mouth disease scare of 1967. He and the club's chairman, Eric Clarke, had travelled to Cardiff to present Lochore's All Blacks with a miniature coracle as a memento of their visit. Meads, who d been sent off the previous Saturday at Murrayfield, was so overcome that anyone should want to comfort him in such a way that he gave them his boots. Herewini did, too. "Because of the foot and mouth, you see, they could not take them back to New Zealand anyway", Morgan explained.

Taking the centre position in the club's central cabinet is the pair that gives him the most satisfaction – the white boots which once belonged to Muhammad Ali. They were procured for him by Gerald Williams, the BBC tennis correspondent, who hails from nearby Llanstephan.

Here hang Cooper's and Conteh's boots. From football, Beckenbauer and Pele represent one generation, Finney and John Charles another. If there are Cowdrey and Sobers to represent one era, there are Botham and Richards to represent this. *Thompson, Ovett and Coe* of athletics; Borg and Billie Jean of tennis and so on through Nastase and Nicklaus, Ed Moses and Stirling Moss. And if Jeeps and Duckham, of England, catch the eye, then anybody who was anybody in Rugby over the last 20 years has his boots here, with signature and good wishes attached.

Which were the most difficult pair to obtain? "I couldn't for the life of me get hold of Sir Stanley Matthews. Whenever I rang, I spoke to his wife – who had learnt as every wife does, she said, to expect him when she saw him. That was the time when he had commitments in South Africa, Canada and Malta. It was difficult." But, always a man for the main chance, he has his way of making an offer that no one has yet refused.

"Would you like a salmon, Lady Matthews, fresh from the Towy?" he asked. "Oh, yes, we have some Scottish friends coming down . . ." came the reply. The fish was immediately dispatched by British Rail. The boots duly arrived a week later.

The catch that gives him the most pleasure? Sir Gordon Richards is his unhesitating nomination. Horse racing, to, has been a passion. There was a time when he owned 16 *thoroughbreds, and Gwynne Morgan* is one of an elite to have had a winner – Olympus – at Cheltenham, trained by the owner.

"Again there was a difficulty," he says. "Sir Gordon had given all his riding gear away. Don't bother, I was told." But the opportunist in him insisted that he should bother. And away went another British Rail parcel with the familiar contents. The recipient scoured the attic apparently and found a pair of boots. The letter which accompanied the gift says that they were the pair Sir Gordon wore for his Derby winner; a week later he was wearing them when he was thrown at Sandown.

On Monday Morgan goes on the *maiden voyage of the Royal* Princess, but before that there is the matter of his club,s cup encounter with Pontypool. Jeff Squire has promised Morgan his boots.

Gerald Davies

Threesome lead the parade in Scotland

Schools rugby
By Michael Stevenson

Three schools are vying for pre-eminence in Scotland: Glenalmond, George Watson's College and Edinburgh Academy play Glenalmond and the following weekend meet George Watson's, while last Saturday Atson's beat Glenalmond (21-12).

It will take a fine side to topple Dinburgh, who have won all their six games their latest victims being a useful Strathallan side, whom they defeated 25-3. Edinburgh led 19-3 at the interval, through tries by Graham, Walker and Swanson, with their stand-off half and captain, Walker, contributing two conversions and a penalty. Reah kicked Strathallan's penalty. Strathallan defended stoutly in the second half and conceded only one more score, a try 10 minutes from the close

A hard fought game further south ended in a 3-3 draw through a penlaty apaice, between Sedbergh and Durham.

There are few more dedicated rugby cities than Bristol. Predicatably, a meeting getween two of its most successful schools is something aof an occasion. On Saturday Queen Elizabeth's Hospital defeated Clifton College 20-22 in a match that so easily could have gone the other way error and indiscipline leading to cliftin's downfall. Epsom are going well and registered their eighth win of eight matches. Their victoms were Reigate (16-0) and their scorers were Greaves, Baldwin, an Law (tries) and Baldwin (two conversions).

Bedford (P6, W4, L1, D1) registered a good win over Uppingham (16-9). The Bedford pack got progressively more on top. Their No 8, Bayfield, scored two tries in this victory

Williams called in

Ian Williams, the replacement for the injured Moon, makes his first appearance of the tour when the Australians play Munster at Limerick tomorrow.

AUSTRALIANS: R Gould (Queensland), I Williams (Queensland), A Slack (Queensland, captain), M Hawker (New South Wales), R Hanley (Queensland), M Ella (New South Wales), N Farr-Jones (New South Wales), E Rodriquez (New South Wales), T Lawton (Brisbane), G Burrow (Queensland), S Poidevin, S Cutler, S Williams, R Reynolds, S Tuynman (all New South Wales). Replacements: P Cox (New South Wales), D Campese (Australian Capital Territory), T Lane (Queensland), S Päcid (Queensland), W Campbell (Queensland), W Calcraft (New South Wales).

RUGBY UNION

Banker Ripley sees chaos of the game compounding interest

Simon Barnes

Doomed, doomed, doomed – English rugby is dying, defeated and done for. Such is the cry that goes up now that England, so roundly thumped by Australia, look groggily and fearfully at the prospect of the advancing Romanians, who take on Our Boys at Twickenham in January, and the Romanians, it seems, have good cause to fancy their chances.

In such times of gloom and despondency, with the calls for total revolution echoing in the ear, the only sensible thing to do was to go along to see the assistant general manager of the United Bank of Kuwait, in order to beg a few Kuwaiti dinars' worth of wisdom. The aforesaid banking gentleman is Andy Ripley, a splendid and not uneccentric chap who was England's No 8 for four terrific years. He still plays with Rosslyn Park (even for their firsts) and also turns out for Middlesex.

"It was not a good performance against the Australians", he said. "That is a pity, because the internationals are the game's shop window. But a badly designed shop window doesn't necessarily mean that nothing in the shop is any good. And the point about rugby is that 100,000 people put on little trousers every weekend and get their knees muddy. The sport must be doing something right."

But come on. The sport is bumbling, mixed up, prone to self-destruction, even more prone to spectacular ostrich impersonations, and the administration could profit from being dragged, screaming into the 1950s. These are a few of the milder criticisms levelled at the game.

"Yes, there are plenty of people who think it is important to instigate an organized league structure, who want to bring about a situation where the best players can play the best players all the time. And there are others who will defend the traditional structure of the game to the death. The point is, they are both right. There is no doubt that Rugby Union is in a mess. But I enjoy that. I think the chaos makes it more fun.

"A league with divisions will undoubtedly bring in benefits to the game. But at a cost. The game will lose its muddled air, will lose its atmosphere of mild chaos, and with it a lot of its humanity. And that is the aspect that makes the game enjoyable.

"Rugby is perpetually fascinating – what other sport can rival rugby's talent for scoring own goals? The fact that a player who is sent off in a club match can't play for England all season is a finest example of an own goal you could hope for."

Ripley: predictions

Ripley's attitude is a kind of anticipated nostalgia. For he believes not only that major changes in the game are inevitable, but that they will come sooner rather than later. He has put himself in the rare position of enjoying good old days while they are actually happening. "If we get beat by Romania, a lot of people will feel they ought to fall on their swords. They shouldn't feel like that. It would be just part of the enjoyable mess."

It must, then, be savoured while it is still there. Ripley predicts the establishment of a league system within five years, and says that professional rugby will in due course become a fact of life. "External events will catch up with the game. There are plenty of entrepreneurs who know a good thing when they see one – at the top level, most games get nicked, don't they? – and there are plenty of players who would crawl across broken glass to play professionally."

But the Ripley nostalgia thesis is nothing to do with holy feelings about amateurism. "If I was an unemployed lad with talent from south Wales, I'd go off and play Rugby League. If I'd won the world *Superstars* final" (he was third) "I'd probably have become a professional sportsman."

VOLLEYBALL

Bulgarians bar the way for Britain

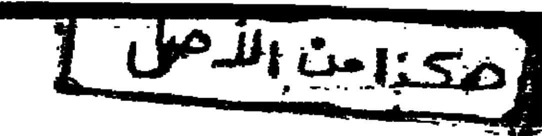
By Paul Harrison

If the first hurdle in European competition proved to be almost embarrassingly easy, with two British clubs through to the last 16 for the first time, then Capital City Spikers and Hillingdon Ladies may now find themselves for the high jump.

Both have drawn Bulgarian opponents in the next round of the European Champions' Cup. Spikers play CSKA Sofia and Hillingdon face Levski Spartak, with the first legs in Sofia on the weekend of December 1-2.

The Bulgarians will be a much tougher proposition than the Luxembourg side whom Spikers beat 6-0 over the two legs or the Norwegian girls Hillingdon defeated 6-1 on aggregate. The English clubs plan to repeat the experiment of playing their home legs on the same day at the same venue.

The English league programme was cancelled because of the European Cup matches.



Car Buyer's Guide

Motoring by Clifford Webb

Seeing red in the petrol tank

If you are one of the increasing number of high milage drivers turning to diesel cars there is a problem you should beware of. It could end with your car being seized and sold, yet no one seems to talk about it.

It is all about the colour of the fuel you are using. If it is green you are all right. If it is red you are in serious trouble. Green indicates you paid the full retail price. Red means you are cheating the Customs and Excise of 62p a gallon by using fuel restricted to agricultural purposes which attracts only 3.5 pence tax compared with 65.8p for road going diesel.

Last year 711 drivers were prosecuted and fined up to £2,000 for using agricultural diesel and in addition 341 of those had their vehicles seized. Customs and Excise officials are empowered to sell the vehicles in any way they wish. In practice they usually offer them back to the original owner at bargain prices. Even so the excise raised £86,000 in this way last year.

Two Customs and Excise officers recently presented themselves at the Lichfield home of a *Times* reader, Mr Robin Wiggins. They said they wanted to conduct a test on the type of diesel fuel in the family Peugeot estate parked outside his home. It was the first he knew of the wide powers of such officials to monitor the use of what in Civil Service jargon is referred to as "rebated and unrebated fuel oils".

In the end they found car had legally designated green diesel. But it could so easily have been otherwise if Mr Wiggins had bought his car second hand and the last user had been in the habit of slipping the odd gallon of illegal red into the tank. The dye used is very difficult to get rid of and leaves incriminating red stains around the filler cap and in fuel lines long after you have switched to green.

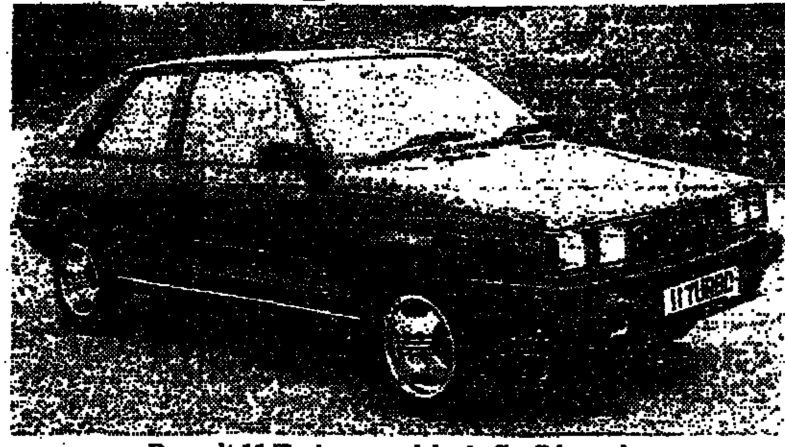
Might be an idea to pop out and have a look now

Ghia's estate

The Turin motor show this week continued the car of the future theme which produced so many eye catching concept models at last month's British motor show. One of the most practical Turin concepts was Ford's Ghia Vignale TSX4 (Touring Sport Extra four wheel drive' which looks more like an estate car than a luxury sports saloon and indeed has all the load carrying characteristics of a modern estate car.

The TSX4has exclusivity in abundance but is unlikely to go into production.

The power developed by the American made Mustang 2.3 litre 4 cylinder engine is a useful 120 bhp.



Renault 11 Turbo: surprisingly flexible engine

Yet the Sierra sized TSC4 is good for a remarkable 124 mph thanks to its very slippery shape. Ford claim a drag coefficient of 0.30 and that is the equal of Audi's world beating 10 series.

Renault Turbo

The performance hatchback sector for so long dominated by the Golf GTi becomes ever more crowded to the delight of the buyer. Increased competition has forced late arrivals to cut their prices to the bone. The result is you can now obtain a four seater car with the performance of an open two seater sports car at prices ranging from £6,000 to about £8,000.

The smallest is the Peugeot 205GTi at £6,395 while the car that started it all the Golf GTi is the most expensive at a just under £8,000. But the one I have just been trying, the Renault 11 Turbo is making a niche for itself because it offers as much interior space and performance as the Golf yet costs nearly £1,200 less.

The Renault has the smallest engine of the bunch. The 1397cc unit attempts to make up for its modest size with the added boost of a new light weight Garrett turbo charger and with some small reservations comes very close to succeeding. Renault has used its long experience of Turbos in Formula 1 racing to develop an engine with a flat torque curve delivering 90 per cent of its power in the 2,000 to 5,000rpm band. It peaks at only 5,500rpm producing a healthy 105bhp.

The result is an installation that is surprisingly flexible. One of the reasons is the new Garrett turbo charger which is 40 per cent lighter and noticeably smaller than those used on other Renault cars.

The ride height has been lowered and the rear anti-roll bar stiffened to handle the extra power. The steering rack has also been modified to reduce kickback torque steer.

It is in the latter respect that I have reservations. Under hard acceleration there is still a noticeable torque steer which at times produces a distinct twitch on the steering wheel. On dry roads you quickly come to terms with what after all has been an ever present problem with front wheel drive cars.

On wet roads bends have to be tackled with caution. On occasions the steering went light indicating momentary loss of tyre adhesion. This lightness coincided with the turbo "coming in".

I am not suggesting that the Renault 11 is an unstable or dangerous car. These were poor road conditions and I was driving fast, but they are a regular hazard and have to be reckoned with in our climate. Unfortunately not all drivers of such potent machinery are experienced enough to find its limits progressively.

Judged by their letters, readers of this newspaper like me to stick my neck out and indicate which of several competing cars they should buy. Without the fullest possible *information about their individual* requirements, that is number of passengers, type of journey, how much they want to pay and so on I cannot help them.

In general terms, however, I would suggest the Renault 11 Turbo at £6,800 must rate very highly for the young family man wanting Jekyll and Hyde transport to enable him to meet his responsibilities on the one hand and his love of fast motoring on the other.

Vital Statistics:

Model: Renault 11 Turbo.
Price: £6,800.
Engine: 1397cc, 4 cylinder turbo
Performance: 0-62mph 9 seconds, max speed 116mph
Official consumption: Urban, 31.7mpg; 56mph, 45.6mpg; 75mph, 35.8mpg
Length: 12.8ft
Insurance: Group 4.

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MORRIS – A service of thanksgiving for the life of Beryl Morris will be held on November 30th 1984 at 3pm, St James' Church, Shaftesbury. Donations (if desired) to Cancer Research or Christian Aid.

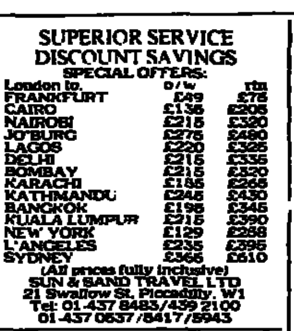
PINDER – A Thanksgiving Service for the life of Barbara Anne Pinder will be held at Chelsea Old Church on Thursday, December 6th at 2.30pm.

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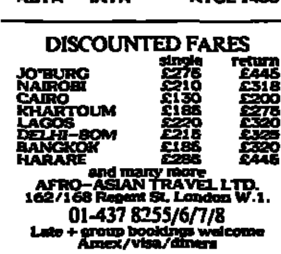
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LEGAL NOTICES

ENTERTAINMENTS

Continued from page 35

CINEMAS

EXHIBITIONS

ART GALLERIES

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17

Today's television and radio programmes

Summaries by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

BBC 1

6.00 **Ceefax AM.** News headlines, weather, traffic and sports bulletins. Also available to viewers with television sets without the teletext facility
6.30 **Breakfast Time** with Frank Bough and Nick Ross. News at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours and at 8.59; sport at 6.40 and 7.40; regional, news, weather and traffic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15: programme choice at 6.55; a review of the morning newspapers at 7.18 and 8.18; horoscopes at 8.33
9.00 **Lyn Marshall's Everyday Yoga.** Lesson four: the Coil (r).
9.10 **Mastermind,** presented by Magnus Magnusson from Worcester College of Higher Education. Christopher Carter's specialist subject is British birds; Nick Morrell answers questions on the life and works of Noel Coward; Malcolm Parnell on the voyages of Captain Cook; and Anne Senior on the novels of Barbara Pym (r) 9.40 Ceefax 10.30 **Play School,** presented by Stuart Bradley and Jane Hardy (r) 10.50 Ceefax
12.30 **News After Noon** with Moira Stuart and Frances Coverdale. The weather prospects come from Ian McCaskill 12.57 Regional news (London and SE only: Financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles)
1.00 ***Pebble Mill at One*** includes Peter Seabrook's gardening advice; fashion from Jeff Banks; music from Modern Romance and the Amadeus String Quartet 1.45 **Little Misses and the Mister Men.** A See-Saw programme for the very young (r)
2.00 ***Racing from Ascot.*** Julian Wilson introduces coverage of three races – the Fairweather City Hurdle (2.10) the Hurst Park Novices' Steeplechase (2.40); and the Charles Davis Handicap Steeplechase (3.10)
3.25 **A Moment to Talk.** Telecommunications workers at GEC in Coventry talk about their lives (r) 3.40 **Cartoon:** Tom and Jerry in Town and Outing 3.48 Regional news (not London).
3.50 **Play School,** presented by Liz Watts 4.10 **The Family-Ness** 4.15 **Jackanory.** Peter Davison reads part five of the Sheep-Pig 4.25 **Commander McBragg.** Cartoon (r).
4.30 **Benji, Zax and the Alien Prince.** Part seven and the Prince's bracelet is stolen and he collapses 4.50 **Hartbeat.** The different tools used in making pictures.
5.15 **Crackerjack** presented by Stu Francis. Among the guests are the Great Soprendo, Shakatak and Hazel Dean 5.58 Weather
6.00 **News** with Nicholas Witchell and Jeremy Paxman.
6.30 **London Plus**
6.55 **Cartoon**
7.05 **Blankety Blank.** Les Dawson's panel this week is Sandra Dickinson, Stu Francis, Cherry Gillespie, Paul Shane, Frank Thornton and Lizzie Webb
7.40 **What a Carry On.** Excerpts from the Carry On series of comedy films
8.05 **Bergerac.** The detective is detailed to follow the wife of a criminal who has been on the run for ten years (r) (Ceefax)
9.00 **News** with Julia Somerville
9.25 **Film: Hard Contract** (1969) starring James Coburn, Lee Remick and Burgess Meredith. John Cunningham is a hit man who limits his romantic life to sessions with call girls. When in Spain on a triple killing assignment he meets socialite Sheila who falls for him without knowing what line of business he is in. Directed by S Lee Pogostin
11.05 **News** headlines
11.10 **Aristocrats.** a profile of Germany's Prince Johannes von Thurn und Taxis (r)
12.00 **Weather**

TV-am

6.25 **Good Morning Britain,** presented by Anne Diamond and Nick Owen. News with Gordon Honeycombe at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; sport at 6.39 and 7.37; angling news at 6.42; the new Miss World from 6.45; exercise at 6.46 and 9.20; the day's anniversaries at 6.51 Popeye cartoon at 7.22; pop video at 7.54; Jeni Barnett's postbag at 8.15; Jimmy Greaves's television highlights at 8.34; Jan Walsh's consumer news at 8.47; insurance advice on home burglaries at 9.06

ITV/LONDON

9.25 **Thames news headlines** 9.30 **For Schools:** The 1982 Festival of India 9.47 How we used to live 10.09 The harm *smoking does to the lungs and* heart 10.26 Individual freedom and the good of society 10.48 Physics: the determination of Boltzmann's Constant 11.05 Moving home 11.22 Part two of The Shadow Cage 11.39 A contemporary account of the 1936 Olympic Games
12.00 **Gideon.** Adventures of a farmyard duck. With the vioce of Tim Brooke-Taylor (r) 12.10 **Rainbow.** Learning with puppets 12.30 ***Never Too Early, Never Too Late.*** Part two of the series covering all standards of education (Oracle)
1.00 ***News at One*** 1.20 **Thames news** 1.30 **Film: Murder, She Said*** (1961) starring Margaret Rutherford as the redoubtable Miss Marple who, on the train returning home from London, is shocked to see a man strangle a woman. Directed by George Pollock
3.00 ***Take the High Road.*** Drama on the Scottish highland estate of Glendarroch 3.25 **Thames news headlines** 3.30 **Sons and Daughters**
4.00 **Rainbow.** A repeat of the programme shown at 12.10 4.20 **Rub a Dub Dub.** A musical version of the nursery rhyme, Pussy Cat, Pussy Cat 4.25 **The Wind in the Willows** 4.50 **Illusions.** Fergus Roy continues his history of magic with the help of Paul Matthews who plays Houdini performing one of his most daring feats. 5.15 **Blockbusters**
5.45 **News** 6.00 **The 6 O'Clock Show.**
7.00 **Airwolf.** Robert Winchester, the inventor of the advanced combat helicopter, Airwolf, is being double crossed by a beautiful laboratory assistant who is working for the Russians.
8.00 **Bruce Forsyth's Play Your** ***Cards Right.*** Couples test their knowledge of public opinion and their luck at the turn of a card.
8.30 **Hallelujah!** starring Thora Hird as the keen but ineffective saver of souls for the Salvation Army (Oracle)
9.00 **Eh Brian, It's a Whopper.** Part two of the comedy series about a Midland coarse angling club and it is time for the first contest of the season (Oracle)
10.00 **News at Ten** followed by London news headlines
10.30 **The London Programme,** presented by John Taylor. An investigation into the increase of squatting in the London area
11.00 ***Struggle.*** Comedy series set in a Labour controlled London Town Hall where, tonight, the council leader has the knotty problem of whether or not to allow himself to be allocated a fall-out shelter in times of emergency
11.30 **Around Midnight.** Chat show hosted by Janet Street-Porter and Auberon Waugh
12.15 **Live from London,** the Climax Blues Band
1.15 **Highway Patrol*** Vintage American crime series starring Broderick Crawford (r)
1.45 **Night Thoughts**



Ferruccio Berolo: Venetian Dance Master (BBC 2, 8.30pm)

CHOICE

● *ARENA'S 75th birthday* portrait of Francis Bacon (BBC 2, 9.25pm) loses as much from the fact that the interviewer knows the painter well as it gains from it. It is their mutual respect that encourages Mr Bacon to open up his life and his work so generously to David Sylvester. This, clearly, is a coup for *Arena* because the most that one could have expected from the normally guarded Mr Bacon is that he would lift up one corner of the carpet of his world. In tonight's film, he whips away the carpet altogether, revealing an accumulation of dust (literally dust, because it finds its way from the cluttered studio and on to his canvases). It must be acknowledged that Mr Slyvester draws from the painter some fascinating thoughts about art's function in bringing order to the chaos of life, and about the processes by which the elements of chance and accident influence the evolution of a painting. But Mr Sylvester is not in a challenging mood when it comes to those aspects of Mr Bacon's work that I cannot be alone in finding ugly and perverted: paintings, for example, in which viscera seem to adorn the body instead of being enclosed by it. Life in the raw is an extremely brutal thing, says Mr Bacon. An astounding and highly debatable conclusion. Yet it leaves his interviewer silent. The reason Mr Bacon does not paint a rose is that it is very mortal and, in a day or two, will die. But is it not a thing of unsurpassed beauty while it lives? The question is mine, not Mr Sylvester's, and I think it ought to have been his.

● *Ferruccio Berolo, the subject of* tonight's ITALIANS film (BBC 2, 8.30pm) is a non-Venetian dancing master, teaching in Venetia, who loves Venice because, he says, it allows the human being to be a human being. He grew up surrounded by walls of love, and crowned by protective females. There is, however, nothing bland and sentimental about Signor Berolo, and whatever humanising effects his happy upbringing and his *happy adopted city might have had* on his domestic life (he sews, irons, and is a master cook), he is a very demon when it comes to knocking Mamma's little darlings into shape in the dance studio. "I'm counting away like an idiot – and you're all over the place", he bawls at his charges. We can almost hear Terpsichore wince.

Peter Davalle

BBC 2

9.00 **Ceefax**
9.30 **Daytime on Two:** Newton's Laws of Motion and the Space Shuttle. 9.52 Part eight of Badger Girl. 10.15 Maths: decimals. 10.38 Science: keeping warm. 11.00 History: the development of towns from the Middle Ages. 11.22 Why the textile industry came to Blackburn. 11.44 Job sharing. 12.05 An introduction to the use of *small computers.*
12.30 Robots and microcomputers. 12.55 An analysis of Britain's *performance* as an economic force since the industrial revolution. 1.20 For moderately handicapped young adults. 1.38 Part one of a three-episode drama about a Scottish family at the turn of the century. 2.00 The dangers of solvent abuse. 2.30 Part two of Shaw's Androcles and the Lion, starring Billy Connolly.
3.00 **Shades of Autumn.** *Sunday Times* gardening correspondent, Graham Rose and Roy Lancaster explore the delights of the gardens of Hidcote Manor, Gloucestershire (r) (Ceefax).
3.25 **Racing from Ascot:** the Lion Gate Handicap Hurdle (3.40).
3.55 **Film: The Capture*** (1949) starring Lew Ayres and Teresa Wright. Drama, set in Mexico, about the manager of an oil *refinery who is wracked with* guilt after killing a man he believed stole money from the company. Directed by John Sturges.
5.25 **News** summary with subtitles.
5.30 **The Four Great Seasons.** David Bellamy in the dales of the north of England during the autumn (r).
6.00 **The Invaders.** Science fiction serial.
6.50 **Choir of the Year 1984.** A new *series begins with the first of* the quarterfinals. Robert Tear introduces six choirs from the south of England.
7.30 **Three in the Wild.** Continuing the story of Shak the Red Fox, the only survivor of a family of foxes living on the Somerset Levels.
8.00 **Call My Bluff.** Frank Muir, Lynsey de Paul and Huw Weldon try to pull the wordy wool over the eyes of Arthur Marshall, Sheila Steafel and Ian McKellen.
8.30 **Italians.** A portrait of Ferruccio Berolo, a Venetian dancing master (see Choice).
9.00 **M*A*S*H** An old First World War comrade of Col. Potter's now deskbound, arrives unexpectedly at the 4077th.
9.25 **Arena.** A film portrait of Francis Bacon (see Choice).
10.30 **Newsnight** includes an interview with the man *accused of forging the Hitler* diaries.
11.15 **Film: The Defiant Ones*** (1958) starring Tony Curtis and Sidney Poitier as two prisoners on the run, chained together. Curtis plays John Jackson, a racialist white, Poitier his black fellow escapee, Noah Cullen. Directed by Stanley Kramer. Ends at 12.55.

CHANNEL 4

2.30 **Treasure Hunt.** Anneka Rice flies above Edinburgh, directed by Jules and Martin Hayward in the London studio, deciphering clues to the site of the treasure (r).
3.30 **The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie.** Part four of the serial based on the novel by Muriel Spark, starring Geraldine McEwan as Miss Brodie.
4.30 ***Countdown.*** *Yesterday's winner of the anagrams and* mental arithmetic competition is challenged by Robert Violett, a computer programmer from Hemel Hempstead.
5.00 **The Addams Family*.** Grandmama's efforts at abstract painting leave a critic speechless with amazement – and horror.
5.30 **The Tube,** presented by Jools Holland and Paula Yates. Live music in the studio from The Three Johns, ABC and the Midlands band, King. Paula Yates interviews David Byrne of Talking Heads and, on film, Jools Holland talks to Helen Terry who also sings a couple of numbers.
7.00 **Channel Four News** with Alastair Stewart. The programme includes a report from Nicholas Owen on the fixing of British Telecom share prices.
7.30 ***Right to Reply.*** Beatrix Campbell, the reporter on the Diverse Reports programme that critically analysed the Warnock Report, defends her views.
8.00 **What the Papers Say.** Alexander Chancellor of the Sunday Telegraph casts a critical eye over how the press treated the week's news.
8.15 **A Week in Politics.** Should Britain leave Unesco? Plus a *pre-Irish summit interview with* John Hume.
9.00 **Tell the Truth.** Graeme Garden is the chairman as Gloria Hunniford, Claire Rayner, Willie Rushton and James Whitaker interrogate three people to try and discover which of them is telling the truth.
9.30 **Gardeners' Calendar,** presented by Hannah Gordon. What to do in November is explained by Bertie Doe who harvests and stores winter vegetables; Dave Hutchins plants ground cover; and John Warwick demonstrates how to protect alpine plants for the winter.
10.00 **Newhart.** Comedy series.
10.30 **Just Sex.** Now that women have greater freedom has it altered the views about the differences between the sexes?
11.20 ***Opinions.*** Graham Chapman reveals the dangers in worrying too much about what the neighbours say.
11.50 **Film: The Alternative Miss World** (1980). The British television premiere of Richard Gaynor's bizarre film of The Alternative Miss World contest held in 1978 in a circus tent on London's Clapham Common.
1.15 **Closedown.**

Radio 4

On long wave. † denotes stereo on VHF.
5.55 Shipping. 6.00 News Briefing. 6.10 Prayer For The Day.
6.30 Today, including 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News. 6.55, 7.55 Weather. 7.00, 8.00 News. 7.25, 8.25 Sport. 7.45 Thought for the Day. 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament. 8.57 Weather; Travel.
9.00 News.
9.05 Desert Island Discs: The castaway is Vernon Handley, Associate Conductor of the London Philharmonic Orchestra (r).†
9.45 Feedback. With Susan Marling.
10.00 News; International Assignment.
10.30 Morning Story: "And Man" by William Saroyan. Read by Erroll MacKinnon.
10.45 Daily Service (NEM, page 30).
11.00 News; Travel; Analysis (r).
11.48 I Beg Your Pardon?. Sounds from the world of nature.
12.00 News; You and Yours. Consumer advice.
12.27 Top of the Form. Scotland v North (r). 12.55 Weather.
1.00 The World at One: News.
1.40 The Archers. 1.55 Shipping Forecast.
2.00 News; Woman's Hour from Cardiff. Includes an item on a fine tenor called The Nightingale of Arrow.
3.00 News; Masters' India. An 18-part serialization of John Masters' saga of the Savage family spanning the years 1825-1956. "The Nighrunners of Bengal" (2) (r).
4.00 News. The Impossible Europeans? Richard Mayne explores some national cliches. 4: The British: museum pieces.
4.10 The Mind in Focus. Current thinking in psychology. 1: Creativity.
4.40 Story Time: "Let the People Sing" by J. B. Priestley (10). Read by Enn Reitel.†
5.00 PM: News Magazine. 5.50 Shipping. 5.55 Weather.
6.00 The Six O'Clock News; Financial Report.
6.30 Going Places. Travel and transport.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 *Pick of the Week with Margaret* Howard.†
8.20 The Week in Synod. Rosemary Hartill reports on the week's proceedings in the General Synod, the Church of England's parliament.
8.45 Any Questions? from Bedford. With Norman St John-Stevas, Ken Livingstone, Detta O'Cathain, Carlton Duncan and John Timpson.
9.30 Letter From America by Alistair Cooke.
9.45 Kaleidoscope. Arts magazine. Includes comment on the Ancient Mariner at the Olivier Theatre.
10.15 A Book at Bedtime: "Some Do Not" by Ford Madox Ford (10). 10.29 Weather.
11.00 *Today in Parliament.*
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Week Ending. Satirical review.
12.00-12.15 News; Weather. 12.33 Shipping Forecast.
VHF (available in England and S Wales only). Radio 4 vhf is as above except: 5.55-6.00 am Weather; Travel. 11.00-12.00 For Schools. 1.55-3.00 pm For Schools. 5.50-5.55 pm (continued). 11.00-2.00 Study on 4: Taize – a Life of Community. 11.30 Por aqui. 12.30-1.10 Schools Night-Time Broadcasting: Teenage Plays. 12.30 The Long Arm of the Law.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather. 7.00 News.
7.05 Morning Concert; part one. Vivaldi's L'Inverno, Op 8 No 4; Mozart's Flute Quartet in D, K 285 (Kuijken, flute); Schubert's Minuet and Finale in F, D 72; Sibelius's Sonatina in E, Op 80 (Ricci/Rabinoff), Sousa's On Parade: Comrades of the Legion.
8.00 News.
8.05 Morning Concert (contd.): Pierne's Divertissements sur un theme pastorale; att Bach Suite in G minor, BWV 1070; Shostakovich's Piano Concerto No 2 (Alexeev/English Chamber Orchestra).
9.00 News.
9.05 This Week's Composers: Villa-Lobos ans Ginastera. Villa-Lobos's Guitar Concerto (Bream/LSO); Ginastera's Cello Concerto No 2 (Ginastera/Spanish National Orchestra).
10.00 Eighteenth Century Piano Music: Peter Wallfisch plays Eberl's Sonata in C minor; Georg Benda's Sonata No 1 in B flat; E T A Hoffmann's Sonata No 1 in F minor; Dussek's La chasse.
10.45 Langham Chamber Orchestra (under Handford). Respighi's *Three Botticelli Pictures;* Harty's arrangement of A John Field Suite; and Bartok's (arranged Willner) Rumanian folk dances.
11.40 Peter Warlock Songs: Michael George (baritone) with Antony Saunders (piano). Works include Mockery; Sweet and Twenty; There is a Lady; Rest Sweet Nymphs; The Countryman.
12.15 BBC Philharmonic Orchestra (Downes conducting). Part one. With Sequeira Costa (piano). Beethoven's overture Egmont; Schumann's Piano Concerto.
1.00 News.
1.05 Concert: party two. Rawsthorne's Symphony No 3.
1.40 Chorus and Brass: BBC Singers with Albany Brass Ensemble. Panufnik's Song to the Virgin Mary; Peter Sander's Brass Quintet No 2; Tucapsky's Comoedia. With Elisabeth Crocker (soprano) and Jonathan Robarts (baritone).
2.30 Nash Ensemble Czech Series: Dvorak's Bagatelles op 47 for 2 violins, cello and harmonium; Simon Holt's Shadow Realm for clarinet, cello and harp; Janacek's Miasi for wind, sextet. Interval reading at 3.20.
3.25 Nash Ensemble: Smetana's Piano Trio in G minor, Op 15.
4.00 *Choral Evensong:* from Rochester Cathedral. 4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure: another of Fritz Spiegl's selections.
6.30 Guitar Music: Robert Aussel plays works by Jana Obrovska, Barrios, Nuñez and Ginastera.
7.00 Melvyn Tan: playing a Graf fortepiano of c. 1822. Tomasek's Allegro Capriccioso in C Op 84 No 2; Schubert's Scherzo in D flat, D 593 No 2; Beethoven's *Fantasia in G minor Op 77.*
7.30 BBC Symphony Orchestra (Zender conducting). Part one. With Jeanne Loriod (ondes martenot) and Peter Donohoe (piano). York Hoher's Schwarze Halbinseln.
7.50 Scottish Season: Douglas Dunn reads a selection of his recent poetry.
8.10 Concert: part two. Oliver Messiaen's Turangalila Symphony.
9.45 Of Cadres and Kings: Third of John Keay's programmes about South-East Asia. Tonight: Creeds and Politics.
10.30 Beethoven: Richard Lester (cello) and Susan Tomes (piano) play the Sonata in A Op 69.
11.00 Music from the Age of Vermeer: the Hilliard Ensemble play works by Christopher Wilson, Padbrue, Schuyt, Marenzio, Sweelinck, Claude Le Jeune, Carel Hacquart, Nicolas Vallet, Carissimi, Herman Hollanders.
11.57 News. 12.00 Closedown.

Radio 2

On medium wave. † denotes also VHF stereo. News on the hour (except 9.00pm). Headlines 5.30am, 6.30, 7.30 and 8.30. 4.00 Colin Berry.† 5.30 Ray Moore.† 7.30 Terry Wogan† including 8.31 Racing. 10.00 Russell Harty.† 12.00 Steve Jones† including 1.05 Sports Desk. 2.00 Gloria Hunniford† including 2.02, 3.02 Sports Desk. 3.30 Music all the Way.† 4.00 David Hamilton† including 4.02, 5.05 Sports Desk. 6.00 John Dunn† including 6.02 Sports Desk. 6.45 Sport and Classified Results (MF only). 8.00 Friday Night is Music Night from Hippodrome, Golders Green With Ann James, Geoffrey Chard and the Charles Young Chorale.† 9.15 The Organist Entertains.† 9.55 Sports Desk. 10.00 The Show with no Name. Comedy sketches with Eddie Braden, Eli Woods, Alison Steadman. 10.30 Nights at the Paris Olympia. Daniel Pageon celebrates 30 years of international variety at this famous theatre. This week: 1950s. 11.00 Stuart Hall. 1.00am Hilary Osborn presents Nightride.† 3.00 Big Band Special.† 3.30-4.00 String Sound.†

Radio 1

On medium wave. † denotes also VHF stereo. News on the half hour from 6.30am until 9.30pm and at 12 midnight. 6.00am Adrian John. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 12.00pm Gary Davies including 12.30 Newsbeat. 2.30 Mark Page. 4.30 Select-A-Disc with Peter Powell. 5.30 Newsbeat. 5.45 Roundtable with Richard Skinner. 7.00 Andy Peebles. 10.00-12.00am The Friday Rock Show.† VHF RADIOS 1 & 2: 4.00am With Radio 2. 10.00pm With Radio 1. 12.00-4.00am With Radio 2.

WORLD SERVICE

6.00 Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 7.30 Roots And Branches. 7.45 Merchant Navy Programme. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 Incredible Flautists. 8.30 The Spirit Of Kitty Hawk. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Not So Much A Hobby. 10.00 News Summary. 10.01 I've Heard That Song Before. 10.30 Business Matters. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News About Britain. 11.15 *In the Meantime.* 11.25 Ulster Newsletter. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 Jazz for the Asking. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty Four Hours. 1.30 John Peel. 2.00 Outlook. 2.45 Letterbox. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Birth Of An Old Lady. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Science in Action. 4.45 The World Today. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Sarah And Company. 5.40 Book Choice. 8.00 World News. 8.15 Music Now. 8.45 Nineteen Eighty-four. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 Book Choice. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 From The Weeklies. 11.30 Hollywood's Oscar Nights. 12.00 World News. 12.09 News about Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 About Britain. 12.45 Recording of the Week. 1.00 News Summary. 1.01 Outlook. 1.30 I've Heard That Song Before. 1.45 Letterbox. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Network UK. 2.30 People and Politics. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News About Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 Just A Minute. 4.00 Newsdesk. 4.30 That's Trad. 5.45 The World Today.

All times in GMT

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN

† Stereo. ★ Black and white. (r) Repeat

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; **Radio 2:** 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; **Radio 3:** 1215kHz/247m: VHF -90-92.5; **Radio 4:** 200kHz 1500m: VHF -92-95; **LBC** 1152kHz/261m; VHF 97.3; **Capital:** 1548kHz/194m: VHF 95.8; **BBC Radio London** 1458kHz/206m: VHF 94.9; **World Service** MF 648kHz/463m.

BBC1 WALES 12.57-1.00 News of Wales Headlines. 3.48-3.50 News of the Wales Headlines. 4.30-4.50 Hartbeat (as BBC1 4.50 pm). 4.50-5.30 Crackerjack (as BBC1 5.15pm). 5.30-5.35 Interval. 5.35-5.58 Wales Today. 6.30-7.05 The Good Life. 12.00-12.05 News and weather. SCOTLAND 12.57-1.00 The Scottish News. 6.30-7.00 Reporting Scotland. 7.00-7.35 Blankety Blank. 7.35-8.05 Zoo 2000. 12.00-12.05am News and weather. NORTHERN IRELAND 12.57-1.00 Nothern Ireland News. 3.48-3.50 Northern Ireland News. 6.30-6.55 Inside Ulster. 9.25-10.25 Music In The Air. 10.25-12.20am Film: The Master Gunfighter (Tom Laughlin). 12.20-12.25 News and weather. ENGLAND 6.30-6.55 Regional news magazines.

S4C Starts 1.00pm Countdown. 1.30 Alice. 2.00 Ffenestri. 2.20 5 Lon Goch. 2.35 Hyn O Fyd. 2.55 Interval. 3.00 Year's Ahead. 3.45 Book Four. 4.15 Scotland's Story. 4.45 Hanner Awr Fwy. 5.30 The Tube. 7.00 Newyddion Saith. 7.30 Rosalind A Myrddin. 8.00 Pobol Y Cwm. 8.30 Y Byd Yn Ei Le. 9.15 Fairly Secret Army. 9.45 Tell The Truth. 10.15 Film: Kiss Tomorrow Goodbye (James Cagney). 12.05am Newhart. 12.35 Soap. 1.05 Closedown.

CENTRAL As London except: 1.20pm News. 1.30-3.00 Film: Miranda* (Glynnis Johns). 6.00-7.00 News. 10.35 Streets of San Francisco. 11.35 Film: Speedtrap. 1.25am Closedown.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

GRANADA As London except: 1.20pm Granada reports. 1.30 Just Our Luck. 2.00 Adventurer. 2.30-3.00 Glass Box. 3.25 News. 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 6.00 News. 6.05-7.00 Weekend. 10.30 Open Night. 11.00 Film: Duel at Diablo (James Garner). 12.55am Just Jazz. 1.35 Closedown.

HTV WEST As London except: 1.20pm News. 1.30 Film: Four-Sided Triangle (Barbara Payton). 3.00-3.30 Movie Makers. 6.00 News. 6.30-7.00 Sidestep. 10.30am Your Say. 10.45 West This Week. 11.15 Film: The Traitor* (Donald Wolfit). 12.40am Closedown.

HTV WALES As HTV West except: 11.22am-11.37 About Wales. 6.00pm-7.00 Wales At Six. 10.30-11.00 Week In The Life Of . . . . 11.00-12.30am Film: The Traitor.

ULSTER As London except: 1.20pm Lunchtime 1.30-3.00 Film: Perfect Woman (Patricia Roc). 3.30-4.00 Protectors. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 6.20 Sportscast. 6.45-7.00 Advice with Anne Hailes. 10.30 Witness. 10.35 On Stage Tonight. 11.00 Film: Man and His Mate (Victor Mature). 12.20am News, Closedown.

CHANNEL As London except: 1.20pm News. 1.30 Film: Gunsmoke. 3.00-4.00 Hart To Hart. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Channel Report. 6.30 Crossroads. 6.55-7.00 What's on Where. 10.34 In Camera. 11.05 Film: Rampage. 12.45 am Closedown.

YORKSHIRE As London except: 1.20pm News. 1.30 Film: Magnificent Magical Magnet of Santa Mesa. 2.55-3.00 Little Skate. 6.00 Calendar. 6.30-7.00 Diff'rent Strokes. 10.30 Shelley. 11.00 Sweeney. 12.00 Rock of the Seventies. 12.30am Closedown.

SCOTTISH As London except: 1.20pm News. 1.30 We'll Meet Again. 2.30 Portrait of a Legend. 3.00 Three Little Words. 3.30-4.00 Bounder. 6.00 *Scotland Today.* 6.30-7.00 Funny You Should Say That! 10.30 Teacher's Only. 11.00 Ways and Means. 11.30 Late Call. 11.35 Sweeney. 12.35am Closedown.

TSW As London except: 1.20pm News. 1.30 Film: Gunsmoke (Audie Murphy). 3.00-4.00 Hart to Hart. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Today South West. 6.30-7.00 What's Ahead. 10.35 Film: Experiment in Terror (Glenn Ford). 12.45am Postscript, Closedown.

ANGLIA As London except: 1.20pm News. 1.30-3.00 Film: The Ringer * (Herbert Lom). 6.00-7.00 About Anglia. 10.30 Cross Question. 11.10 Film: Thing from Another World. * 12.45am Graham Kendrick sings, Closedown.

TYNE-TEES As London except: 1.20pm News. 1.30-3.00 Film: Flanagan Boy. * 6.00 News. 6.02 Three Little Words. 6.30-7.00 *Northern Life. 10.32 Film: Blood Beast* Terror (Peter Cushing). 12.00 Last Outlaw. 1.00am Three's Company, Closedown.

TVS As London except: 1.20pm News. 1.32 Jemima Shore Investigates. 2.35 Three Little Words. 3.00 Afternoon Club. 3.27-4.00 Young Doctors. 6.30-7.00 Country Ways. 10.30 Shelley. 11.00 Masquerade. 12.00 John Cougar – Freeze Frame. 12.30am Company, Closedown.

GRAMPIAN As London except: *1.20pm News. 1.30-* 3.00 Film: To Dorothy, a Son (Shelley Winters.) 6.00-7.00 North tonight. 10.30 *Film: Man Inside (Stefanie Powers).* 12.30am News, Closedown.

BORDER As London except: 1.20pm News. 1.30-3.00 Film: Hypnotist (Roland Culver). 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 6.00 Lookaround. 6.30-7.00 Take the High Road. 10.30 Ten Thirty. 11.00 Film: Fiend Without a Face. 12.25am News, Closedown.

Entertainments

also on page 34

Princesses share the limelight

By Alan Hamilton

It was a moment of immense trepidation for the Princess of Wales. The last time she attempted to name a ship – well, a canal barge, actually – the bottle stubbornly refused to break against the bows and her husband had to come to the rescue.

No such chances could be taken with the P & O's new 45,000-ton, £130m flagship the Royal Princess, berthed at Southampton on a fleeting two-week stopover between her *Finnish birthplace and the lucrative* cruising market of Miami. The word was that the job of the company's chief naval engineer was on the line if the magnum of vintage Krug did not self-destruct against the virgin-white bow.

The technology of bottle-breaking has made great strides since the Queen Mother swung a magnum dangling on a very long piece of string *to break against* the bows of the Queen Elizabeth at Clydebank in 1938. This time the chief naval engineer had installed a hefty hinged metal cradle worked by a stout hawser. Numerous bottles of inferior vintage had been clouted against the hull at rehearsals; there was even an unconfirmed rumour that the real bottle had been pre-cracked, just in case.

Obligingly, the smoking autumn mist lifted as the Princess arrived in a special train from London to meet President Koivisto of Finland, who could be forgiven for looking pleased that one of his yards had supplied the flagship of Britain's biggest cruise line, a day ahead of schedule.

The Princess emerged on to the quayside to be greeted by 2,000 *invited guests, including schoolchild*ren who had been issued with paper P & O flags to wave with their Union Jacks. Security was tight; police launches prowled around the vast hull, and there was almost no opportunity for the public to watch

At least some of the adulation was directed at the Princess's outfit, a scarlet two-piece suit topped by a matching scarlet beret with sailor's twin tails at the back. The hat almost obscured the Princess's much-discussed new hairstyle.

The Princess mounted the podium, and looked faintly nervous as the Bishop of Southampton, the Rt Rev Edward Cartwright, blessed the vessel.

The moment had come. "I name this ship Royal Princess," said the Princess. "May God bless her and all who sail in her." There was a furtive, worried glance to the bow towering above her. She grasped the large silver lever and pulled; the ribbon-decked rope snapped taut. The Krug crashed in its cradle, splintered, and sent a trickling foam down the ship's side. The chief naval engineer's job was safe.

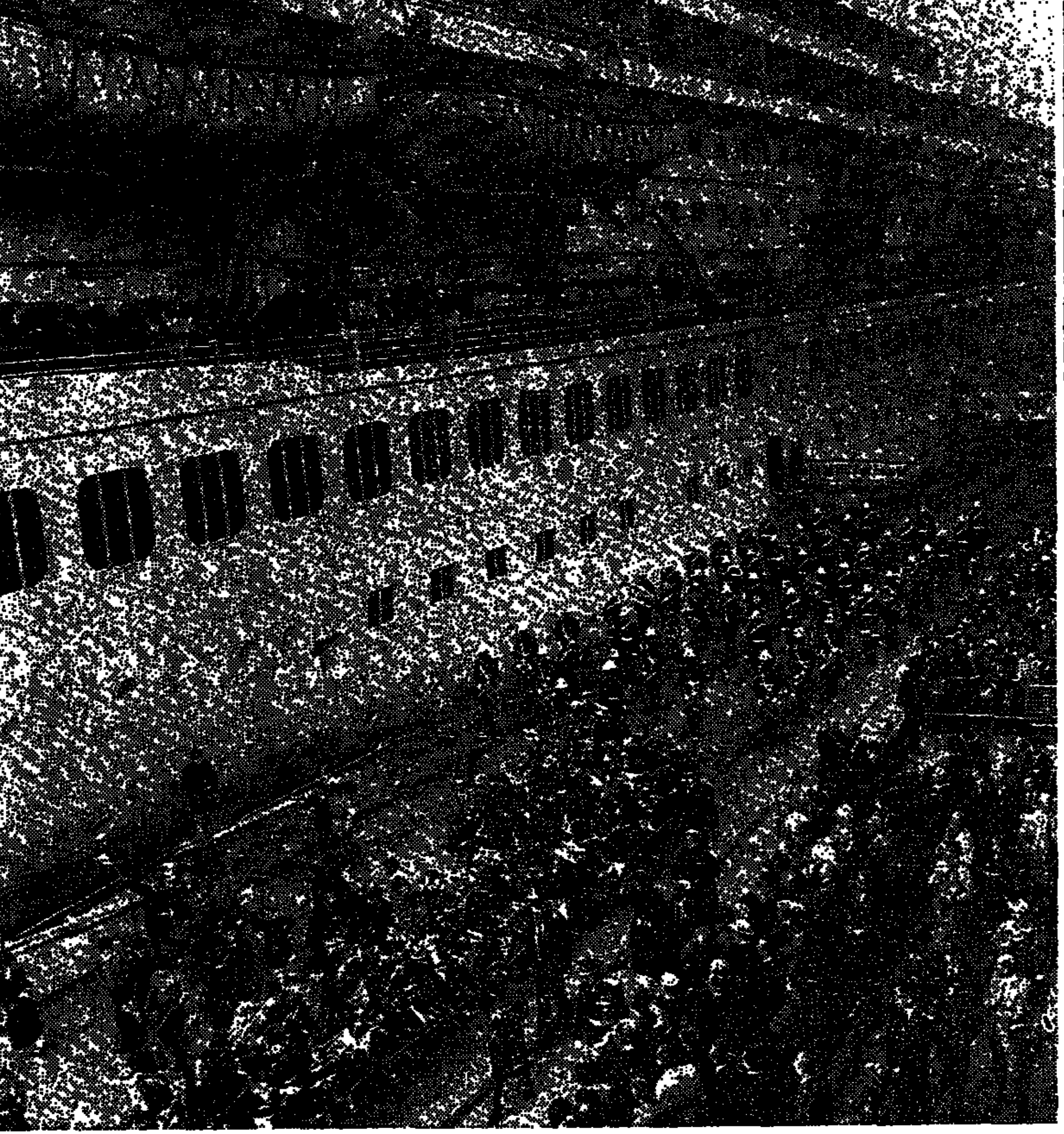
The Princess was laden with gifts *from crew, owners, and builders:* a silver porringer for Prince Henry, two P & O teddybears, a set of Finnish gold jewelry, and a silver replica of a David Norris sculpture which adorns the ship.

"From now on I shall have a special interest wherever the Royal Princess sails and I am sure she will prove to be a great asset to P & O and to Britain," the Princess said after lunch on board.

The name is one of the few British things about the ship. She was built by Finns, is crewed by Italians and Mexicans, and will be paid for by middle-aged Americans from Middle America. She will, however, be under the command of Britons, led by Captain John Young.



The Princess of Wales on board the Royal Princess at Southampton yesterday and, below, the Princess flanked by children and guests after the ceremony (Photograph below: Bill Warhurst).



The Queen Mother being presented with a copy of *The Times* yesterday by the Editor, Mr Charles Douglas-Home, which was among items put in a casket and placed in the foundations of the Royal College of Music's new Opera Theatre. The Prince of Wales later laid the foundation stone.

Labour call for ballot ignored by NUM

Continued from page 1

Their numbers were depleted by the absence of Mr Ted McKay, the North Wales miners' leader, and Mr John Dowling, of the Midlands craftsmen, who was not there because of an interval union dispute about who is actually *the representative of* the NUM power group on the executive.

At the press conference after the executive meeting, Mr Scargill was scornful of the coal board's return to work figures and suggested that they are inaccurate. But the NUM clearly feels the need to go back out into the coalfields to explain its case both the striking pitmen and to the general public.

Rallies are to be held in every town and village within the mining communities "to ex*plain fully* the union's position and what we have offerd in an attempt to resolve this dispute".

Furthermore, NUM leaders decided that after the many statements of support from a *wide range of organizations*, including the churches, the NUM will hold meetings with representatives of those organizations to explain the union's position.

The NUM is also to continue to do all in its power to seek the widest support within the labour and trade union movement "in our fight to retain pits, jobs and communities".

Thatcher attack on Kinnock for 'lack of guts'

Continued from page 1

we heard virtually nothing about it until a few days ago.

"*It took* a distinguished trade unionist to condemn violence at a mass meeting of the NUM and Mr Kinnock echoed it from a safe distance. Mr Kinnock did not have the guts to go and do it himself."

Meanwhile, ministers were moving in for the kill against Mr Arthur Scargill, NUM president, showing an eagerness to be magnanimous in victory with the miners themselves while hoping that the current leadership might pay the penalty for defeat.

Mrs Thatcher said in the Commons: "I believe that when the strike ends, and I hope it ends very soon, we will have to do as much as we can to build on moderate, responsible, reasonable and constructive trade unionism."

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh visit Uppingham and Oakham Schools, Leicestershire, to mark their Quatercentenaries; arrive RAF Cottesmore, 10.50.

Princess Margaret attends a Ball in the Pump Room, Bath in aid of the National Society for the *Prevention of Cruelty to Children*, 8.45.

New exhibitions

Paintings, drawings and photographs by Joan Eardley and her contemporaries; City Art Centre, 2 Market St, Edinburgh; Mon to Sat 10 to 5; (ends Dec 15).

A Scottish Profession: architects *revealed (ends Dec 21)*; and Thomas Hamilton: architect, (ends Dec 15); Talbot Rice Art Centre, Old Cottage, South Bridge, Edinburgh; Mon to Sat 10 to 5.

Exhibitions in progress

One of a kind, monoprints by contemporary British and American artists; and Peacock printmakers – 10 years; both at Aberdeen Art Gallery, Schoolhill, Aberdeen, Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Thurs till 8, Sun 2 to 5, (ends Dec 1).

"Action Portraits", original photographs by Scottish press *photographers; Kirkcaldy Museum* and Art Gallery, War Memorial Gardens; Kirkcaldy, Mon to Sat 11 to 5 Sun 2 to 5, (ends Dec 8).

Portraits photographs by Jim Cunningham and paintings by the artists featured in the portraits; Lillie Art Gallery, Station Road, Milngavie, Strathclyde; Tues to Fri 11 to 5, and 7 to 9, Sat and Sun 2 to 5, (ends Nov 30).

Cadbury's National Exhibition of Children, Art, City Art Gallery, The Headrow, Leeds; *Mon to Fri 10 to 6*, Wed 10 to 9, Sat 10 to 4, Sun 2 to 5; (until Nov 25).

Music

Concert by the Nash Ensemble; South Bromsgrove High School, *Charford Rd, Bromsgrove*, 7.30.

Concert by the Vienna Boys Choir; His Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen, 8.

Concert by the Strathclyde University Chamber Choir, Brass *Ensemble* and *Wind* Quintet; Assembly Hall, Strathclyde University, Glasgow, 8.

Concert by Brodsky String Quartet; Harewood House, Leeds, 7.

Concert by the Scottish Chamber Orchestra; Mitchell Hall, Aberdeen, 7.30.

Recital by Maureen Smith (violin) and Ian Brown (piano); Felixstowe College Chapel, 7.15.

Piano recital by Bernard d'Ascoli; Canford School, Wimborne, Dorset, 8.

Talks, lectures

Posters: the Impressionists to Art Nouveau, by George Oliver; Dundee Art Society, 17 Roseangle, 7.30.

Ancient Persia: a Warrior's World, by J. Calder; Royal Scottish Museum, Chambers St, Edinburgh, 11.

General

BookFair; Assembly Rooms, York; 12 to 8, tomorrow 10 to 5.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,587

ACROSS

1 Saw the Christian era (5).
4 Antediluvian hair-style (9).
9 Sailor-boy wearing this waterproof (9).
10 Red king needs warm cover returning to America (5).
11 No point in writing if you haven't got one (6-9).
12 Old Roman satellite put a hundred in the gap (6).
14 Driver's accessory for which pickpockets take credit (3-5).
17 The sticking power of glue? Yet it can get unstuck (8).
19 This fox seen off by these rats (6).
22 Rapprochement with a drink in the marquee? Excuse Smith Minor's French (7,8).
24 Moor's ancient character captures many a butterfly (5).
25 Flood *survivor returns to* a sort of Irish Hindu teacher (9).
26 Ex gratia payments for song by girl (9).
27 Chevalier's wife's unintelligible double-talk? (5).

DOWN

1 George writing a lot about the ideal place incessantly (9).
2 Sort of stage wear for kitchen-sink drama? (5).
3 So naive, this poor sort of excuse (7).
4 Language that adds lustre to French . . . (6).
5 . . . and one that's official much further east (8).
6 Fate causes a sport upset outside the ring (7).
7 Onslaught of five captures three quarters (9).
8 No lie-abed he, seen going upstairs (5).
13 Studies art set-up in force (9).
15 Christopher then is worried – young Tom's so frolicsome (9).
16 Vessel without king's pennon (8).
18 Honesty is the name of the lady in the stage school (7).
20 Suffered rude treatment at last (7).
21 Name of first leading academician to go to Jericho (6).
22 Taken from bed it helps a girl . . . (5).
23 . . . a good thing for another girl rising (5).

Solution of Puzzle No 16,586

Prize Crossword in The Times tomorrow
CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 10

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Friendly Societies Bill and Mineral Workings Bill, second readings.

Aid for Ethiopia

Contributions for the Ethiopian *famine relief should be sent* to Oxfam at 274 Banbury Road, Oxford OX2 7DZ; Save the Children Fund, 17 Grove Lane, London SE5 8 RD; Christian Aid PO Box 1, London SW9 8 BH; and Unicef, 55 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2 3 NB, Red Cross, Ethiopia Appeal, 9 Grosvenor Crescent, London SW1X 7EJ; CAFOD, 2 Garden Close, Stockwell Rd, London, SW9 9TY; World Vision of Britain, PO Box 123, Northampton.

Donations sent through the post to aid the famine victims in Ethiopia can be sent postage free to the Disaster Emergency Committee (Ethiopian); PO Box 999, London, EC3V 9HP. Cheques sent through National Girobank can be paid into a Freepay account – number 8877.

Donations towards Dame Vera Lynn's YMCA famine appeal can be paid across the counter at any *branch of the Woolwich Building* Society.

Food prices

Home produced lamb prices have risen yet again this week by 2-4p a lb and this trend is likely to continue. Whole leg ranges from *£1.44 to* £1.79 a lb, loin chops £1.58 to £2.09 and whole shoulder 84p-£1.14. New Zealand lamb loin chops, best end chops and shoulder show a 2-3p increase, but leg and middle neck are unchanged. Pork is a good buy and prices are stable; the average price of whole leg is £1.10, loin chops £1.44 and boneless shoulder £1.23 a lb. Beef prices are mostly stable with roasting joints similar to last week, but rump and fillet steak is up by a penny a lb. *Dewhurst has* New Zealand lamb leg and shoulders on promotion this week. Other good buys include: Tesco's whole leg of pork (bone in) 89p a lb; Sainsbury's topside of beef, £1.76 and whole fresh chicken 62p a lb; Bejam self-basting turkey 57p a lb; Fine Fair home produced lamb loin chops, £1.88 a lb; British Home Stores shoulder of lamb, 99p a lb and stewing steak down 27p to £1.19 a lb.

Good supplies of top quality fish are available; cod fillets £1.40 to £1.80, herrings 60-70p, mackerel 48-60p, sprats 34-40p, bass £1 to £1.50, and haddock £1.50-£1.90 a lb.

There are four varieties of *cabbage available* ranging in price from 10-24p a lb. Brussels sprouts and calabrese are cheaper at 14-20p and 50-70p respectively. Some good buys are parsnips 15-25p, carrots 8-18p and cauliflower 30-45p. Spanish satsumas, seedless and juicy, are cheaper this week at 25-45p a lb. Very good quality English and Dutch comice pears at 35-45 a lb and conference 25-35p. Avocados 25-40p, Spanish green honeydew melons 55p-£1 and Italian grapes are also good buys.

There will be an increase of 4p a dozen on all sizes of eggs from next week.

Anniversaries

Births: **John Bright**, orator and politician, Rochdale Lancashire, 1811; **Paul Hindemith**, Hanau, Germany 1895.

Deaths: **Henry III**, King of England, 1216-1272, London, 1272; **John Walter**, Founder of *The Times*, Teddington, Middlesex, 1812.

The pound

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	1.525	1.455
Austria Sch	27.35	25.85
Belgium Fr	78.50	74.50
Canada $	1.715	1.645
Denmark Kr	14.05	13.35
Finland Mkk	8.15	7.75
France Fr	11.88	11.33
Germany DM	3.87	3.68
Greece Dr	178.00	163.00
Hongkong $	10.25	9.85
Ireland Pt	1.26	1.20
Italy Lira	2385.00	2295.00
Japan Yen	320.00	304.00
Netherlands Gld	4.35	4.15
Norway Kr	11.30	10.80
Portugal Esc	214.00	200.00
South Africa Rd	2.34	2.16
Spain Pta	216.25	206.25
Sweden Kr	11.10	10.60
Switzerland Fr	3.19	3.04
USA $	1.305	1.255
Yugoslavia Dnr	295.00	270.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Retail Price Index: 355.5

London: The FT Index closed down 12.1 at 911.6.

Top films

The top box-office films in London:

1 (1) The Woman in Red
2 (3) 1984
3 (2) *Tightrope*
4 (5) Company of Wolves
5 (4) The Natural
6 (–) Red Dawn
7 (–) Full Moon in Paris
8 (6) A Hundred and One Dalmations
9 (10) *Once Upon a Time in America*
10 (7) Conan The Destroyer

The top films in the provinces:

1 Bachelor Party
2 The Woman in Red
3 Tightrope
4 Broadway Danny Rose
5 1984

Supplied by *Screen International*

Top video rentals

1 (1) The Empire Strikes Back
2 (2) Sudden Impact
3 (3) Tootsie
4 (5) Footloose
5 (7) War Games
6 (4) Fawlty Towers: The Germans
7 (-) Terms of Endearment
8 (10) Jaws III
9 (11) Silkwood
10 (9) An Officer and A Gentleman

Supplied by *Video Business*.

Roads

The Midlands: A426/A427: High St, Lutterworth, closed northbound; local diversion. A5: Delays at *roundabout, junction of A426 on* the Rugby to Lutterworth Rd. M6: Contraflow between junction 10A to 11; Hilton Park services closed; northbound and southbound exit at junction 11 closed.

The North: A1(M): Lane restrictions between Blackfell and Havannah interchange (Tyne and Wear). *M6: Hard shoulder closed S of* junction 21A in Warrington.

Wales and the West: M5: Outside lane closed between junctions 8 (M50) and 9 (Tewkesbury) southbound. M4: Severn Bridge: Only one lane open between junctions 21 and 22 (Aust Services to Chepstow) westbound, 24hrs.

Scotland: A90: City of Edinburgh: Queensferry Rd off Parkgrove St; width reduced.

Portfolio

Portfolio – how to play

Monday–Saturday record your daily Portfolio total.

Add these together to determine your weekly Portfolio total.

If your total matches the published weekly dividend figure you have won outright or a share of the prize money stated for that week, and must claim your prize as instructed below.

How to claim

Telephone The Times Portfolio claims line 0254-53272 between 10.00 am and 3.30 pm, on the day your overall total matches The Times Portfolio Dividend. No claims can be accepted outside these hours.

You must have your card with you when you telephone.

If you are unable to telephone someone else can claim on your behalf but they must have your card and call The Times Portfolio claims line between the stipulated times.

No responsibility can be accepted for failure to contact the claims office for any reason within the stated hours.

The above instructions are applicable to both daily and weekly dividend claims.

● Some Times Portfolio cards include minor misprints in the instructions on the reverse side. These cards are not invalidated.

● The wording of Rules 2 and 3 has been expanded from earlier versions for clarification purposes. The Game itself is not affected and will continue to be played in exactly the same way as before.

Weather forecast

Pressure will remain low to the SW of the British Isles.

6am to midnight

London, SE, central S, E, NW, central N England, East Anglia, E, W Midlands, N Wales, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Northern Ireland: Fog clearing slowly from most places, becoming brighter; wind variable light; max temp 8C (46F).

Channel Islands, SW England, S Wales: Sunny intervals, showers, perhaps heavy; wind SE light or moderate; max temp 10C (50F).

NE England, Borders: Fog and rain in places at first, brighter later; wind SE light or moderate; max temp 9C (48F).

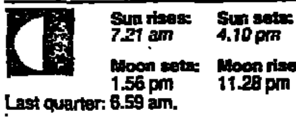
Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney: Cloudy, occasional rain, perhaps heavy; wind SE moderate or fresh; max temp 9C (48F).

Argyll, NW Scotland: Bright or sunny intervals, perhaps rain in places later; wind E light; max temp 9C (48F).

Shetland: Rather cloudy, occasional rain; wind SE fresh or strong; max temp 9C (48F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Sunday: Mostly dry at first apart from rain in the NE; rain spreading from the SW on Sunday to central and S districts; temperatures becoming near normal in the SW.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, Straits of Dover: Wind E light backing NE fresh or strong; rain at times; visibility moderate or good; sea slight becoming rough. **English Channel:** Wind E moderate backing N fresh or strong; showers; visibility moderate or good; sea slight becoming rough. **St George's Channel, Irish Sea:** Wind light E backing N; showers; visibility moderate or good; sea smooth.



Sun rises: 7.21 am — Sun sets: 4.10 pm
Moon sets: 1.56 pm — Moon rises: 11.28 pm
Last quarter: 6.59 am.

Lighting-up time

London 4.40 pm to 6.52 am
Bristol 4.50 pm to 7.02 am
Edinburgh 4.33 pm to 7.24 am
Manchester 4.40 pm to 7.09 am
Penzance 5.06 pm to 7.09 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; fg, fog; r, rain; s, sun.

		C	F			C	F
Belfast	fg	0	32	Guernsey	f	9	48
Birmingham	c	4	39	Inverness	r	7	45
Blackpool	fg	6	43	Jersey	s	9	48
Bristol	fg	0	41	London	s	8	46
Cardiff	c	5	41	Manchester	c	8	46
Edinburgh	r	6	43	Newcastle	r	8	46
Glasgow	r	6	43	Ronaldsway	f	8	46

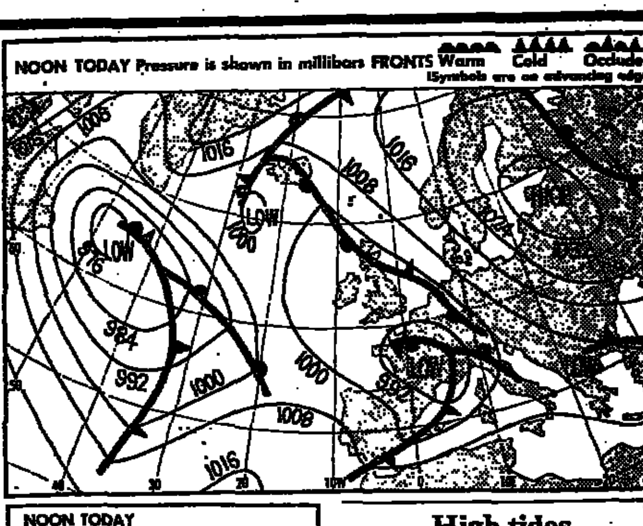
Highest and lowest

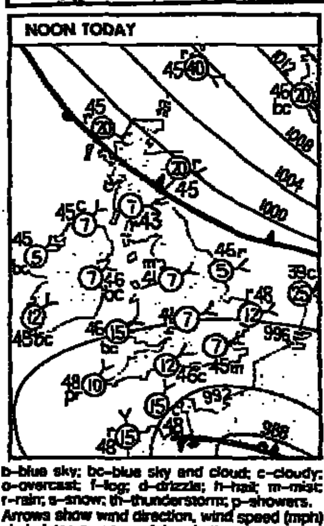
Yesterday: Highest day temp: Herstmonceux, 12C (54F); lowest day max: Carrigans, 1C (34F); highest rainfall: Aberdeen 1.14 in; highest sunshine: Worthing 7.9 hr.

Our address

Information for inclusion in The Times Information Service should be sent to: Sally-Anne Wilkins, TDS, The Times, PO Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ.

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b–blue sky; bc–blue sky and cloud; c–cloudy; o–overcast; f–fog; d–drizzle; h–hail; m–mist; r–rain; s–snow; th–thunderstorm; p–showers. Arrows show wind direction, wind speed (mph) circled. temperatures fahrenheit.

High tides

TODAY

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	6.17	5.9	7.03	6.0
Aberdeen	6.45	3.5	6.52	3.6
Avonmouth	11.57	10.3		
Belfast	3.59	2.9	4.26	3.3
Cardiff	11.42	9.6		
Devonport	10.12	4.8	11.05	4.4
Dover	3.36	5.6	4.13	5.4
Falmouth	9.42	4.6	10.35	4.2
Glasgow	5.21	4.1	5.30	4.4
Harwich	4.26	3.5	5.05	3.7
Holyhead	3.18	4.5	3.42	4.7
Hull	11.20	5.9	11.33	5.8
Ilfracombe	10.55	7.2	11.46	7.0
Leith	7.53	4.6	8.21	4.6
Liverpool	3.57	7.6	4.27	7.7
Lowestoft	1.37	2.3	3.10	2.1
Margate	4.33	4.1	5.18	4.1
Milford Haven	11.16	5.5		
Newquay	10.14	5.6	11.03	5.4
Oban	10.33	3.2		
Penzance	9.25	4.8	10.21	4.4
Portland	11.7	1.7		
Portsmouth	4.20	4.0	4.41	3.8
Shoreham	3.50	5.3	4.26	5.0
Southampton	3.55	3.8	4.13	3.8
Swansea	11.16	7.6		
Tees	9.07	4.4	9.18	4.5
Walton-on-Naze	4.13	3.6	4.59	3.6

Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

Around Britain

	Sun hr	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarboro	-	.22	9	48	Cloudy
Bridlington	-	.25	9	48	Cloudy pm
Cromer	-	.29	9	48	Dull
Lowestoft	-	.26	9	48	Overcast
Clacton	0.9	.05	9	48	Cloudy
Margate	-	.06	10	50	Cloudy
Folkestone	5.5	.25	12	54	Bright
Hastings	-	-	8	46	Sunny
Eastbourne	6.6	.03	11	52	Rain pm
Brighton	-	.02	11	52	Shwrs pm
Worthing	7.9	.20	11	52	Sunny
Littlehmptn	-	-	-	-	-
Bognor R	6.3	-	11	52	Sunny
Southsea	7.2	.01	11	52	Sunny
Shanklin	6.6	.04	10	50	Shwrs pm
Bournemth	2.8	.13	9	48	Shwrs pm
Poole	5.0	.10	9	48	Shwrs pm
Swanage	5.8	.01	9	48	Shwrs pm
Weymouth	5.1	.08	9	48	Bright
Exmouth	3.7	.10	9	48	Thndr pm
Torquay	4.3	.04	10	50	Bright
Falmouth	3.5	.02	10	50	Sunny
Penzance	4.0	.14	10	50	Hail

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Guernsey	5.8	.02	12	54	Sunny am
Scilly Isles	3.9	.16	11	52	Bright
Newquay	4.2	.04	9	48	Shwrs pm
Ilfracombe	7.0	.01	9	48	Sunny
Tenby	3.2	.14	9	48	Cloudy
Southport	-	-	9	48	Cloudy
Morecambe	-	-	8	46	Dull
Douglas	4.0	.20	8	46	Sunny pm
London (Ctrl)	6.4	-	10	50	Sunny
B'ham (Airpt)	-	-	5	41	Fog
Bristol (Ctrl)	4.4	-	9	48	Fog am
Cardiff (Ctrl)	4.7	-	7	45	Sunny
Anglesey	6.0	.45	10	50	Sunny
B'pool (Airpt)	2.5	-	8	46	Fog
Manchester	3.9	-	10	50	Sunny pm
Nottingham	0.1	-	7	45	Drzle am
N'cstl-o-Tyne	-	.02	8	46	Rain am
Carlisle	0.3	-	9	48	Cloudy
Eskdalemuir	-	-	7	45	Dull
Prestwick	4.0	.05	8	46	Sunny pm
Glasgow	-	-	7	45	Fog am
Tiree	4.0	.16	9	48	Sunny
Stornoway	-	.02	8	46	Rain pm

Abroad

MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; fg, fog; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Ajaccio	r	12	54	Cologne	c	5	41	Majorca	f	15	59	Rome	c	17	63
Akrotiri	f	19	66	Copenhgn	s	6	43	Malaga	s	19	66	Salzburg	f	4	39
Alexandria				Corfu	c	15	59	Malta	c	21	70	Sao Paulo*	c	20	66
Algiers	c	15	59	Dublin	s	5	41	Melbourne	s	15	59	S Francisco*	f	12	54
Amsterdam	c	4	39	Dubrovnik	r	13	55	Mexico C*	s	17	63	Santiago*	s	23	73
Athens	f	14	57	Faro*	s	17	63	Miami*	f	23	73	Seoul			
Bahrain	f	29	84	Florence	c	15	59	Milan	r	6	43	Singapore	c	29	84
Barbados				Frankfurt	c	3	37	Montreal*	s	2	36	Stockholm	s	5	41
Barcelona	s	14	57	Funchal	f	19	66	Moscow	s	-5	23	Strasbourg	r	4	39
Beirut	s	21	70	Geneva	r	8	46	Munich	s	1	34	Sydney	c	21	70
Belgrade	c	1	34	Gibraltar	c	17	63	Nairobi	f	21	70	Tangier	c	16	61
Berlin	s	2	36	Helsinki	s	4	39	Naples	f	16	61	Tel Aviv	s	23	73
Bermuda*	c	22	72	Hongkong	f	26	79	New Delhi	s	26	79	Tenerife	c	20	68
Biarritz	f	12	54	Innsbruck	f	12	54	New York*	s	10	50	Tokyo	c	11	52
Boulogne	f	10	50	Istanbul	f	10	50	Nice	f	14	57	Toronto*	s	6	43
Bordeaux	f	11	32	Jeddah*	s	30	86	Oslo	c	0	32	Tunis	f	19	66
Brussels	r	9	48	Jo'burg				Paris*	r	11	52	Valencia	f	14	57
Budapest	c	3	37	Karachi	s	29	84	Peking	r	5	41	Vancouver*	s	5	41
Buen Aires	f	22	72	Las Palmas	c	20	68	Perth	s	30	86	Venice	r	7	45
Cairo	s	24	75	Lisbon	c	15	59	Prague	f	3	37	Vienna	c	0	32
Cape Tn	s	23	73	Locarno	r	6	43	Reykjavik	r	5	41	Warsaw	s	0	32
C'blanca	f	20	68	L Angeles*	f	15	59	Rhodes	r	16	61	Washington			
Chicago*	f	10	50	Luxembg	dr	5	41	Riyadh	s	29	84	Wellington*	r	15	59
Ch'church*	s	24	75	Madrid	c	10	50	Rio de Jan*	c	23	73	Zurich	s	5	41

* denotes Wednesday's figures are latest available